

**Upper Valley Household Hazardous Waste Committee
Greater Sullivan County Household Hazardous Waste Committee**

ANNUAL REPORT 2011

During 2011 the Upper Valley Household Hazardous Waste Committee continued to maintain a regional website (www.uvhhw.org), provide educational outreach, and support the HHW collections provided by the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission.

Home & Life Show Event Booth: The Household Hazardous Waste Committee's booth in March 2011 featured information on collections in the area including dates and what materials are and are not accepted. Prescription and over-the-counter medicine examples and management options were provided. A drawing was provided to encourage people to complete a survey on their current medicine disposal practices and educate them about proper disposal and the availability of unwanted medicine collections. About 300 people participated in the survey and drawing. Members of the fledging Greater Sullivan County HHW Committee also volunteered at the booth.

Other materials included information on proper management of rechargeable batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, auto batteries, antifreeze, and mercury-containing devices such as button batteries, thermostats, and thermometers. Alternative cleaning recipes and pesticide-free lawn and garden care information were distributed. A large map displayed the household hazardous waste collections in the area in both New Hampshire and Vermont with their dates, times, and contacts for further information.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Support: Both Committees provided volunteer support at the collections keeping waiting times short and residents informed. A total of 528 households from Cornish, Enfield, Goshen, Hanover, Lebanon, Lempster, Lyme, Newbury, Newport, Orford, Piermont, Plainfield, Springfield, Sunapee, Unity Washington, and Wilmot brought waste to two collections at the Lebanon Landfill in July and October. Over 373 households from those towns brought waste to the New London collection in August and the Newport collection in September. Residents from Canaan, Claremont, Croydon, Grantham, Sutton, and Norwich, Vermont also attended although they had to pay to come to the collection.

Unwanted Medicine Collections: Dartmouth-Hitchcock Outpatient Pharmacy partnered with the Committees and the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission to provide unwanted medicine collection. At the two Lebanon collections, 80 households brought unwanted medicines for proper disposal. At the New London and Newport collections, 36 households brought unwanted medicines.

Both Committees are made up of volunteers from towns in the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Region. We encourage anyone interested to attend our meetings and become involved as a member or as an event volunteer. Contact Joyce Noll, Chair of the Upper Valley HHW Committee at 643-3083. They typically meet in Lebanon. Contact Tom Bennett, Chair of the Greater Sullivan County HHW Committee at 763-4614. They typically meet in Sunapee. We would love to talk to you.