



THE HERON

LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT

www.lgvsd.org

APRIL 2012

This common household product kills the intended pests along with beneficial animals, such as honeybees, fish and other aquatic life.



Extremely Toxic!
The Equivalent of
One Drop of Permethrin
in 20 Olympic-Sized Pools
Can Be Toxic to the Bay.



AVOID USING THE TOXIC INSECTICIDE PERMETHRIN

Found in over **1,400** pet and household pest control products

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO PROTECT THE BAY

PERMETHRIN POISONS AQUATIC INSECTS AND CRUSTACEANS IN THE BAY

Permethrin is highly toxic to fish and other animals that live in both salt water and fresh water.

YOU CAN HELP PROTECT THE BAY FROM PERMETHRIN!

1. AVOID PRODUCTS ENDING IN "THRIN"

Make sure you look in the "active ingredients" and avoid products ending in "thrin." They belong to a class of pesticides called pyrethroids and are a threat to water quality, and highly toxic to aquatic insects and crustaceans.

2. DO NOT DISPOSE OF PERMETHRIN DOWN THE DRAIN

Due to high toxicity for aquatic life, permethrin should be disposed of at a hazardous waste collection facility such as Marin Sanitary Service.



There are over 1,400 products with permethrin in the form of liquids, powders, dusts, aerosols, sprays, treated clothing, pet flea collars and spot-on treatments.



IT IS SAFE TO USE NATURAL PYRETHRIN, WHICH IS PRODUCED FROM THE CHRYSANTHEMUM FLOWER.

AVOID PERMETHRIN:

Though Commonly Found in Pet and Household Pest Control Products, It Gets into the Bay and is Killing Aquatic Life



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT PERMETHRIN

WHAT IS PERMETHRIN?

Permethrin is a synthetic chemical, widely used as an insecticide and insect repellent on landscaping, as a flea preventive treatment for pets, on humans to eradicate parasites such as head lice and scabies, and for other similar uses.

WHAT PRODUCTS CONTAIN PERMETHRIN?

Products containing permethrin may be liquids, powders, dusts, aerosols, sprays, treated clothing, and pet flea collars and spot-on treatment. There are more than 1,400 registered products containing permethrin.

HOW DOES PERMETHIN WORK?

Permethrin affects the nervous system in insects, leading to death. It is also dangerously toxic to cats and aquatic life. It is not acutely toxic to humans and birds, but the EPA classifies it as a likely human carcinogen.

HOW DOES PERMETHRIN AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT?

When permethrin gets into the Bay, it binds to sediment and can stay there for more than a year. Permethrin is highly toxic at extremely low levels to fish and other animals that live in either salt water or fresh water. It can kill aquatic life at levels as low as one-billionth of a gram per liter.

PLEASE LIMIT OR AVOID PERMETHRIN USE

1. Make sure you **LOOK IN THE "ACTIVE INGREDIENTS"** and avoid products ending in "thrin". The exception to this is pyrethrin, which is produced naturally from the chrysanthemum flower.
2. **DO NOT** dispose of permethrin down the drain. Take permethrin products to a hazardous waste collection facility, such as Marin Sanitary Service.
3. **USE LESS TOXIC ALTERNATIVES**

Permethrin is dangerously toxic to cats and aquatic life.



Permethrin Kills at Extremely Low Levels. Please Help Us Reduce Water Pollution Caused by Pesticides.

HERE ARE MORE WAYS YOU CAN HELP THE BAY

HOW TO DISPOSE OF HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to remove hazardous waste and other chemicals.

Take your hazardous waste to the collection facility

at 565 Jacoby St., San Rafael. Call (415) 485-6806 for more information.



DUMPING CAT LITTER DOWN THE DRAIN KILLS SEA MAMMALS!

A deadly parasite in cat feces can survive sewage treatment and make its way to the Bay.

Don't Dump Cat Litter Down the Drain. Not only does it clog drains—leading to spills and blockages—it harms sea mammals. Cat feces can contain a parasite, *Toxoplasma gondii*, which is linked to the death of sea otters, whales and porpoises.

The ONLY safe way to dispose of cat litter is by putting it in the garbage.

KEEP FATS, OILS AND GREASE (FOG) OUT OF SINKS

PREVENT CLOGS AND OVERFLOWS!

Never pour fats, oils or grease down the drain. Even with hot water, the grease builds up inside pipelines over time. Also, avoid putting fatty food scraps down the disposal.

RECOMMENDED GREASE CONTROL PRACTICES

- Collect fats, oils and grease into a container and dispose in the garbage.
- Dry-wipe pots and pans containing grease with paper towels before washing.
- Scrape food scraps into the garbage or compost bin.



Free Drug Take-Back Day

April 28, 2012

See www.lgvsd.org for details

Sponsored by Marin County

HELP PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT-NO DRUGS DOWN THE DRAIN!

Wastewater treatment plants cannot remove all drugs in the sewage treatment process, leading to the harming of plants, wildlife and human health.

Dispose of old medications and SHARPS at a designated FREE drop-off location. Go to www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org for a list of locations near you.



To Learn More About How **YOU** Can
Help Protect the Bay, Visit Our Website,
www.lgvsd.org

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Board Meetings are
held at 4:30 p.m. on
the second and fourth
Thursday of each month.

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AVOID TOXIC PERMETHRIN FLEA AND INSECT KILLER: USE SAFER ALTERNATIVES

You can care for your pet, your home and the environment
without using permethrin based insecticides.

Below is a list of less toxic alternatives you can try.

- Frontline, Advantage and Program are examples of anti-flea chemicals that **DO NOT** contain permethrin
- Concern Crawling Insect Killer
- Fleanix
- Saver Crawling Insect Killer
- Oil of eucalyptus
- Neem oil
- Catnip
- Boric acid
- Essential oils such as citronella, basil, clove and rosemary



Check the active ingredient list in common household and pet pest control products. Avoid permethrin ingredients ending in "thrin."

For More Information

Visit www.lgvsd.org for a more detailed list of permethrin alternatives, links to helpful websites, ideas for alternative products and more

Or go to www.ourwaterourworld.org

