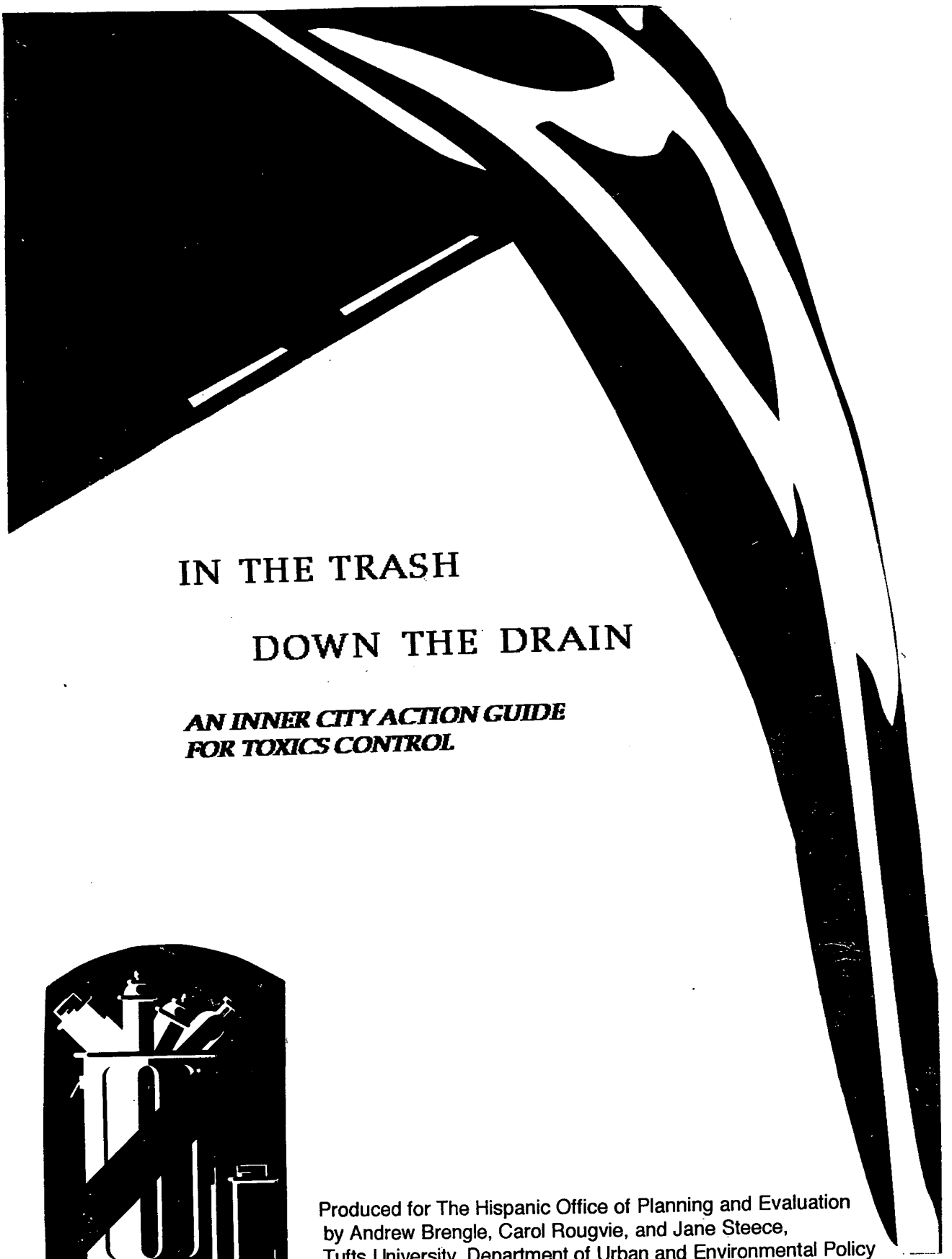
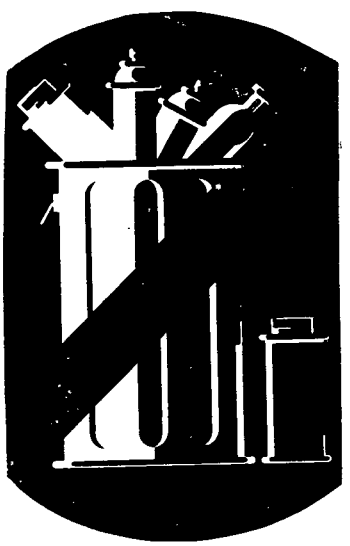


IN THE TRASH

DOWN THE DRAIN

AN INNER CITY ACTION GUIDE FOR TOXICS CONTROL



Produced for The Hispanic Office of Planning and Evaluation
by Andrew Brengle, Carol Rougvie, and Jane Steece,
Tufts University, Department of Urban and Environmental Policy

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

Pollution is taking a deadly toll on all of us, especially on our communities in the inner city, The dirty air we breathe, the chemicals we use for the simplest tasks; the trash and grime we have come to accept: these everyday facts eat away at our health and our lives. You can't always see their effects, but they are real.

The rise in cancer rates has paralleled the rise in chemical use in the U.S.

Heart disease, our number 1 killer, is suffered by more people in areas of high air pollution.

This handbook speaks to community leaders in the inner city and in ethnic neighborhoods in Massachusetts. It is designed as a tool for educating members of our communities about taking back control of our environment.

The Big Picture Section ties household hazardous waste and auto maintenance into the larger environment that touches us all. Stepping Out give you tips on holding a good meeting, to get anyone interested off on the right foot. A resource list at the end provides local contacts and information.

Our hope is that this booklet will be put in interested hands and empower them to action.

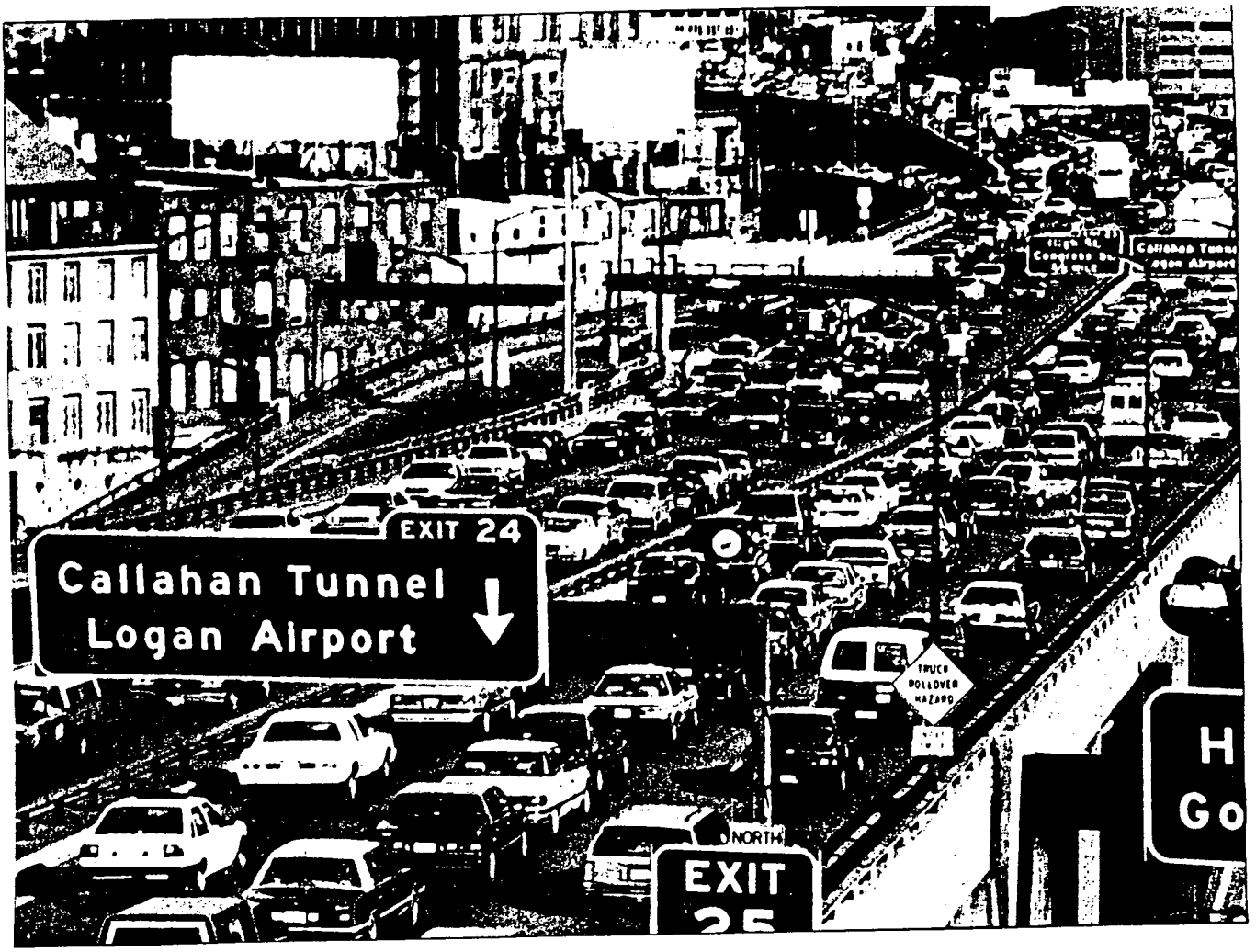
The companies that sell us our floor cleaners, bug killers, chrome polish and vinyl preservatives have spent a lot of money to make sure our lives include their products. We like to use them. They supposedly make our chores easier. We keep buying and they keep selling. Everybody's happy.

Meanwhile, what the companies throw away, is often dumped next to poor communities of African, Asian, Hispanic and Native Americans. Three ou of five African and Hispanic Americans live in communities with uncontrolled toxi waste sites.

All of us unconsciously create this injustice. When we buy our household and automotive products, we don't know where they come from. When we throw them away, we forget to think about where they go. Too often they go to landfills and incinerators next to poor communities.

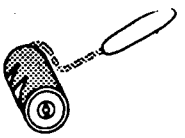
This pattern has been going on for years. The companies have gotten rich. Many of us have gotten sick and often don't know why. Whatever the amount of time or effort a chemical cleaner seemingly saves us, **it costs us now and will go on costing us into the future.** Hazardous waste dumps, polluted harbors and dirty air are ours to live with.

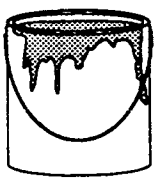
There is a great need for the inner city to become an environmental issue. We are the ones to do it. Making a few changes in the way we do things a home can make a difference. We don't have to accept toxic city neighborhoods **It's time for environmental justice and time to act and speak for ourselves.**



THE BIG PICTURE

Many scientists now believe that most cancers result from the combined effects of long term exposure to low levels of cancer causing chemicals, or "weak carcinogens", acting together.





Decreasing male fertility has been linked to toxic chemical exposure. Sperm density has decreased by 20% - 50% in the last 30 years.

The Big Picture

How Our Actions Haunt or Help Our Communities

The toxic products we throw out in the trash, pour down the drain, or dump in the storm sewer never really leave us. They end up in the air we breathe, in our harbors, on our beaches, in our streams, ponds, rivers and lakes.

These products cost us money in taxes and fees for cleanup. They create an expensive, dangerous cycle of pollution that each of us can help stop by keeping hazardous materials out of our trash and sewer systems.

In The Trash:

Hazardous household and auto products thrown into the trash end up in incinerators or landfills, which pollute our drinking water and the air we breathe.

In landfills, the toxic chemicals and metals eventually seep into the ground with rain water. Underground water feeds the lakes and reservoirs that provide our drinking water.

When trash is burned in incinerators, toxic materials enter the air we breathe and remain in the ash after the rest is burned. The ash is then taken to a landfill by the ton.

The nine trash incinerators in Massachusetts release into the air 10,000 pounds a year of mercury, large amounts of lead and other heavy metals. They also release dioxins and acid gases.

Down The Drain :

Most sewage comes from households. When they go down the sink, toilet or storm drain, toxic products such as household cleaners, solvents, used motor oil and pesticides enter the sewer system.

Even the best sewage treatment plants can't treat all of the toxic chemicals and metals in these products. Some remain in the wastewater that's discharged into harbors and bays. They also remain in the wastewater sludge, which is often dumped in a landfill or burned in an incinerator.

When discharged to our harbors and bays, the poisons, especially toxic metals, end up in fish, some of which we eat.

Other Dangers

Children can be injured by playing with hazardous products in the trash. Trash collectors can be injured by fumes or explosions of toxic material in garbage trucks. Storage of hazardous waste can create fire hazards in our homes. Fire fighters areendangered when hazardous waste burns in house fires.

One Person Can Make a Big Difference

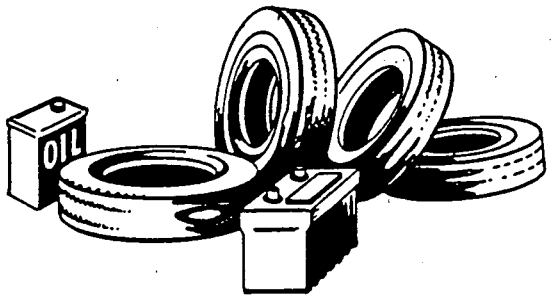
Our city streets and homes should be places that nourish our bodies and spirits, not places that cause us disease and death. Many problems we face seem too big to do anything about, but **we can cut down on the poisons** we have to live with. Just thinking about how and what we use in our daily lives can help us make changes.

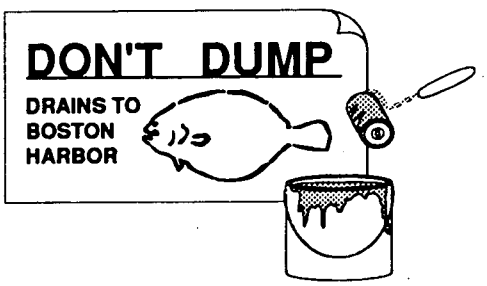
We can choose not to buy toxic household products.

We can choose to handle safely those we can't avoid.

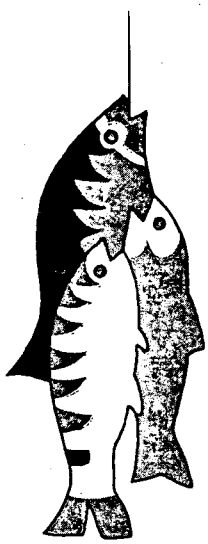
We can choose to dispose of hazardous waste properly

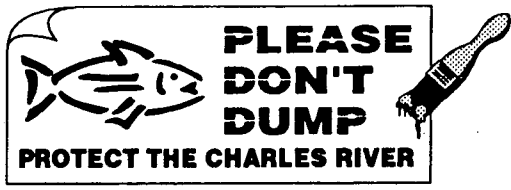
Acting on what we have learned by making these choices can inspire others in the community to make changes too. Every one of our actions makes a difference.





Car batteries contain 18 pounds of lead and a gallon of sulfuric acid -- two hazardous wastes we can't afford to dump.

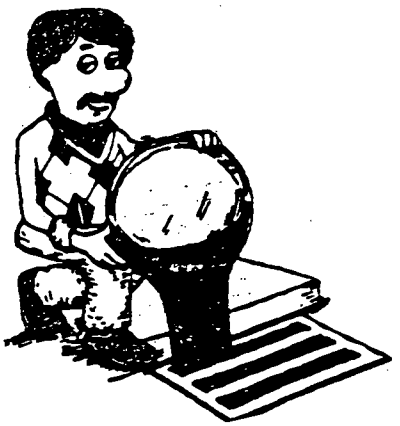




Two thirds or more of all lead intake for adults comes from the food we eat, which absorbs metal from contaminated water and soil.

AUTO MAINTENANCE:

SAFETY AND SENSE



Do: Take automobile air conditioners in need of repair to a liscensed garage. (All garages that service 100 or more air conditioners a year must have a liscensed technician and equipment

Do: Avoid storing gasoline If you must, store only in a container made for the purpose, with flame arrester, away from heat sources and out of childrens reach.

Do: Collect used motor oil in sturdy containers;heavy duty plastic or metal, NOT OLD MILK JUGS.

Do: Take used oil to gas stations, other stores that sell it, or a waste oil collection center (See Resources Section)

Do: Bring used tires and batteries to a garage, automotive store or hazardous waste collection center. They are easily recycled.

Do: soak up spilled antifreeze with kitty litter, then bag it carefully and throw in the trash.

Auto Maintenance: Safety and Sense

What you should know about your car and your health.

Parts, fluids, and accessories for our cars and trucks create some of our biggest neighborhood health hazards, when improperly used and dumped. Brief contact with many of these materials, or repeated contacted with small amounts, can cause serious health problems now and years down the road.

Parts and Products that can cause problems

Tires	**Oil and Filters**	**Antifreeze**
Gasoline	**Batteries**	**Metal Parts**
Freon	**Degreasers**	**Gas Additives**
Brake Fluid	**Radiator Flush**	**Car Wax**

What's So Bad About These Things?

Motor Oil, Gasoline, Brake and Transmisson Fluids are all highly flammable and when burned can cause nausea, headaches and breathing problems now and years later can cause cancer and brain disfunction, particularly with repeated exposure. Gasoline is especially toxic and extremely flammable, igniting faster than any of the other chemicals, it also gives off toxic fumes without being burned

Motor Oil and Gasoline contain benzene, which causes cancer and lead. Gasoline also contains ethylene dichloride, which can cause brain damage.

Brake and Transmission Fluids contain lead and other heavy metals after use.

One Gallon of Oil Ruins One Million Gallons of Water, when spilled on the ground or dumped in the storm sewer. That water cannot be cleaned up in our lifetime. It will hurt every living thing it touches.

All liquids used in car maintenance contain poisonous chemicals that will produce toxic fumes and poison the air when heated or burned. They also irritate or burn skin and eyes. Repeated contact with the skin can cause heightened sensitivity. These poisons also contaminate water when poured down the storm sewer or spilled on the ground.

MoreToxic Auto Liquids and Pastes

Automotive Paints, Thinners and Fillers	**Dry Gas**
Whitewall Cleaner	**Chrome Polish**
Bug, Wax and Tar Remover	**Degreasers**
Aerosol Carburetor Cleaners	**Spray Undercoating**

Antifreeze/Coolant is brightly colored and has a sweet taste, which attracts children and pets and then poisons them.

Auto Batteries leak when discarded because they self destruct. They contain corrosive sulfuric acid that destroys the battery casing and will burn skin and corrode trash cans. They also contain lead. Batteries give off fumes that poison the air, while the acid and lead poison the soil and water.

Freon/Air Conditioner Refrigerant leaks out of disdcarded air conditioners after it is no longer useful. It contains CFCs that destroy the ozone layer, hgh in the atmosphere, which protects our skin and eyes from the sun.

Discarded car air conditioners account for 25% of the CFCs that are destroying the atmosphere.

Any product in an aerosol can will also give off CFCs every time it's used.

Brake Pads and Clutches on older model cars are made with asbestos, which crumbles and creates fiber dust that can easily be inhaled and can cause lung cancer and other serious breathing problems.

Tires, Hoses and Belts can be a fire hazard, if allowed to pile up. Tire fires belch thick, black soot into the air which lands in our lungs, on our houses and on our clothes hanging out to dry. Tires are breeding grounds for mosquitoes and homes to rats when left in vacant lots. Used belts and hoses are often coated with oil and antifreeze.

What Can I Do About These Problems?
I need to use these products to care for my car.

Although there are no alternatives to automotive maintenance products, there are good ways to use and dispose of them and there are dangerous, destructive ways, that will come back to haunt us.

Do use as little of these products as is necessary. Ask yourself if you really need them for the job.

Do keep unused products in their original, labeled containers.

Do read labels to be aware of a product's dangers.

Do dispose of used and leftover products at hazardous waste collection sites.

Do avoid skin contact, breathing fumes, swallowing drips.

Don't dump any automotive liquid on the ground, down a sewer, or in a river or lake.

Don't store automotive liquids and pastes in leaky or flimsy containers.

Don't leave gasoline and other liquids and pastes in open conttainers where fumes can escape.

Don't mix leftover auto liquids of any kind.

Do buy recycled or "re-refined" oil. It's just as good and will encourage recycling.

Don't: flood spilled antifreeze with water to rinse it down the storm drain.

Don't: Add refrigerant to a leaking air conditioning system, or over tighten fittings; loose, hoses, fittings and cracks leak CFCs.

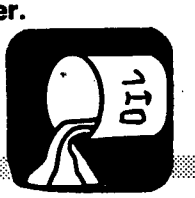
Don't: Let antifreeze collect in puddles or leave it in open containers.

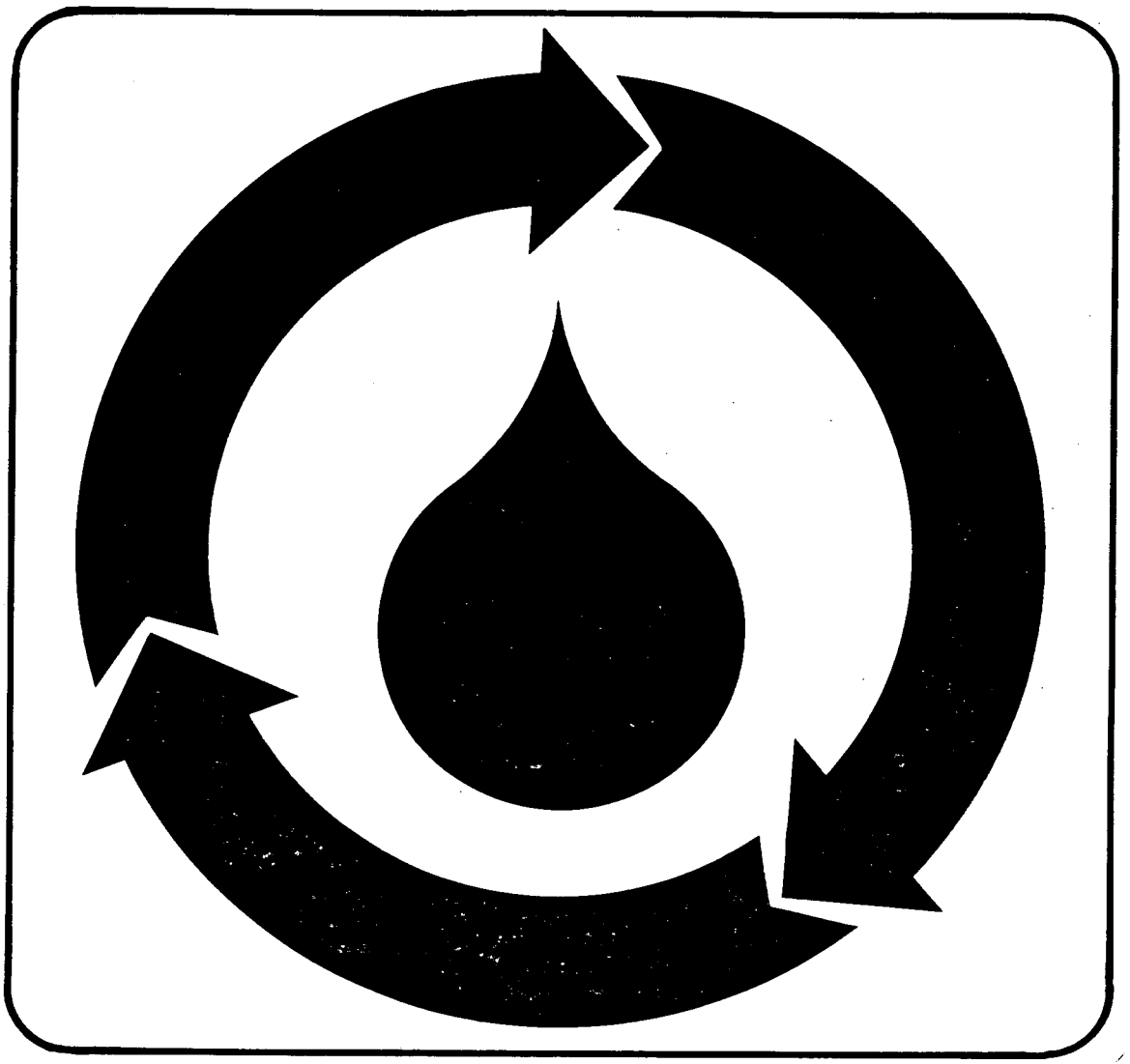
Don't: Leave old metal or plastic parts lying around: Take them to junk yards and scrap collectors. (Old catalytic converters can be refurbished, or its gold and platinum recovered.)

Don't: Wax your car with bare hands; wear heavy gloves.

Don't: Leave dust particles from brake pads or clutches lying around.

Don't: Use gasoline as a solvent or cleaner.





HAZARDOUS MATERIALS IN OUR HOMES

" A multitude of common symptoms can be related to exposure to household toxics -- headaches, depression, even ordinary flu symptoms might not be flu at all, but a pesticide poisoning or a reaction to your furniture polish." -- Debra Lynn Dadd,
The Nontoxic Home

Emissions to the air from incinerator stacks have been known to include up to 27 heavy metals, acid gases, carbon monoxide, and dioxins.

Hazardous Materials in our Homes:
Hidden dangers of everyday products

We often think that household products must be safe if we find them on the shelves of our favorite stores. **Many of them are powerful cleaners, but the powers behind them are poisonous chemicals that can cause illness and injury.**

Hazardous household products create the same problems for our communities that toxic industrial wastes do. They must be handled just as carefully.

Each day Americans produce 4 million pounds of household hazardous waste. Our own health is at stake, both in the privacy of our homes and in the wider world, as these poisons return in our drinking water and in the air we breathe, when disposed of improperly.

Commonly Used Hazardous Products That May Surprise You:

Drain Cleaners	**Oven Cleaners**
Spot Removers	**Mothballs**
Old Medicines	**Bug Sprays**
Paint Thinners	**Enamel- & Oil-Based Paints**

What Can I Do To Make My Home Safer and Healthier ?
Some easy steps to take to protect you and your family

1) Know what you're using ! Read labels ! Beware of products that have *"Warning," Caution,"Poison," Corrosive, " Caustic, "Flammable," "Explosive," " Volatile,"* or a skull and crossbones on them. *"Harmful or Fatal if swallowed"* is another tip-off.

2) Use substitutes if possible. Often there are safer materials to use that will do the job just as well.

3) Know how to use, store and dispose of household products. Make sure that any dangerous products are in clearly marked containers, out of the reach of children.

What's The Fuss?
General Health Effects of Hazardous Household Products:

Poisons from hazardous products build up in our bodies and may not show any symptoms at first, but in time they will cause disease and death. At the very least, the harmful part of many household products can cause dizziness, nausea, allergic reactions, itching, burning, watering eyes, rashes, coughs and susceptibility to colds. Scientists know that exposure to some of the chemicals in the following products can cause asthma attacks, bronchitis, cancer and damage to lungs, liver, kidneys and the nervous system.

Special Problems for Children: Each year 5 to 10 million household poisonings are reported; most of the victims are children. They often confuse auto and cleaning products with soda and candy. Because of their small size and immature systems, children are especially sensitive to the toxic chemicals in some products. They breathe in more vapors, faster, because toxic chemicals concentrate in air closer to the floor.

Special Problems for Allergic People: Many people are sensitive to the chemicals found in household products. For them, contact can cause headaches, difficulty breathing, lack of concentration, confusion and symptoms of mental illness.

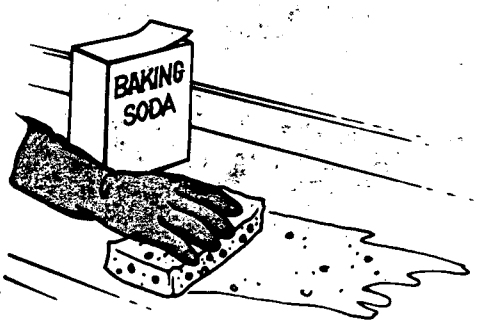
What are these products and what can I do to protect my family?

Know your poisons

Product Type	Health Effects	Solutions
Aerosol Sprays	When inhaled, can cause headaches, nausea, shortness of breath, itching, burning, watering eyes, coughing, skin rashes, sore throats, liver damage, heart problems. Aerosol products will explode if exposed to heat, causing burns and injury.	Most products also come in creams, liquid and pump sprays, *which will save you money.* Keep aerosol containers away from radiators and other heat sources.
Chlorine Bleach	Can cause deadly gases when mixed with vinegar, ammonia or toilet bowl cleaners. Can cause burning and itching skin, eyes and nose when breathed or touched.	Use nonchlorine, oxygen bleach, such as Clorox II.
Oven Cleaners	Contain lye and other chemicals that can irritate and burn your skin and eyes.	Wipe your oven out after baking. Apply baking soda dissolved in water. Let stand for several hours, then scrub clean with damp cloth.
Rug & Upholstery Cleaners	Can cause nausea when inhaled. Large quantities can cause liver damage, anemia, convulsions and possibly, coma.	Use soap or club soda & salt for wine stains. Wear gloves and open windows if cleaning with commercial products.
Enamel- and Oil-Based Paint	Can irritate eyes, skin and lungs. Breathing paint fumes can cause headaches, nausea breathing problems, muscle weakness, and liver and kidney damage.	Paint with windows open. Paint outside if possible. Use water soluble latex paint.

Some household wastes in landfills are strong enough to eat through steel and plastic.

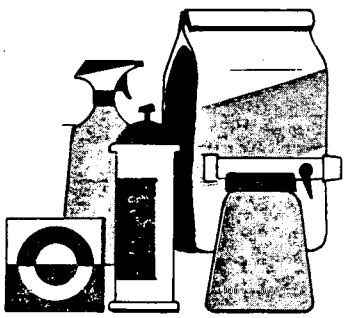
Number of man-made registered chemicals in 1978: 4 million; Number of man-made registered chemicals in 1990: 10 million.



Boston collected 5,205 gallons of household hazardous waste in 1991. About 1,000 households out of the city's 250,000 households participated.

Spray Fabric Finishes	Can cause severe eye damage if they get in your eyes because the eye's natural tearing process can't wash them out.	Apply liquid finishes with a brush.
Pesticides	**EXTREMELY DANGEROUS** Immediate effects: nausea, breathing problems, dizziness, depression. Long term effects: damage to liver, lungs; paralysis.	

Households in Massachusetts are storing an estimated 42 million pounds of household hazardous waste.



If 10% of us cut in half our use of hazardous products, 73 million pounds of hazardous waste would be kept out of American landfills.

More Hazardous Household Products and Substitutes: *Know your poisons*

Product	Substitutes
Toilet Cleaners	Toilet brush and 1/2 cup baking soda, borax, or mild detergent.
Disinfectants	1/2 cup borax and 1/4 cup vinegar in 2 gallons of hot water; can use on all surfaces, including floors.
Mold Killers	Full strength vinegar.
Drain Cleaners	Plunger; flush with boiling water. Use 1/4 cup baking soda separately, followed by 2 oz. vinegar. Wait, then flush with boiling water.
Furniture Polish	1/8 cup lemon juice and 1/4 cup olive or vegetable oil.
Mothballs	Cedar chips, newspapers, lavennder flower petals.
Ammonia-based Cleaners	Vinegar, salt and water mix for surfaces; baking soda and sater for the bathroom.
Abrasive Cleaners or Powders	Bon-Ami, or baking soda rubbed in with a sponge; scrub brush or abrasive pad.
Metal Cleaners/Polishes	Brass and copper: white toothpaste; 2 tablespoons salt, 1 tablespoon lemon juice, 1 tablespoon vinegar.
Room Deodorizers/ Air Fresheners	1/4 cup vinegar in an open dish. Simmer pot pourri or cinnamon & cloves in water.
Spot Removers	Club soda; or 1/4 cup vinegar, 1/4 cup water; rub into stains, rinse well.

Pesticides	**Ants:** Wash surfaces with vinegar solution; sprinkle borax where they enter. **Roaches:** Spread equal mixture of baking soda and powdered sugar, or 2 tablespoons of flour, 1 tablespoon cocoa powder, 4 tablespoons borax.
Pest Strips	Fly swatter
Rat/Mouse Poisons	Mousetrap baited with peanut butter, sprinkled with cornmeal, oatmeal, or a sunflower seed; use plenty of traps.
Plant Insecticides	Spray leaves with soapy water, rinse.
Paint Strippers	Sandpaper, water-based strippers; ***Don't use heat gun on lead paint ! !***
Paint Thinners, Turpentine	Use latex-based paint, which can be thinned with water.
Stains and Finishes Wood Preservatives	Water-based or earth pigment wood finishes, rot- resistant woods.

What's Better About Substitutes?
What difference does it make?

1) They're made from common ingredients!

2) They're less expensive!

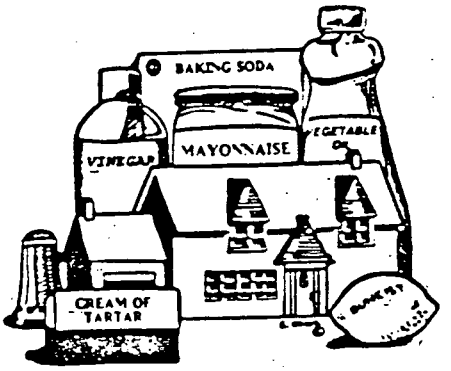
3) They're easy to make and use!

Toxic Buildings
In the walls, windows, floors, pipes and soil

Lead in paint, soil, dust, drinking water, food and air can lead to severe exposure in children, which can cause coma, convulsions, even death. Lower levels cause problems with the nervous system, kidneys and blood. Still lower levels, which do not cause obvious symptoms, are associated with low intelligence and slow development. Other effects begin at these low levels, such as less growth, bad hearing and poor posture. Fetal lead exposure causes lower birth weights and premature birth.

Since lead does not decay, the lead in dust and soil is a long term source of lead exposure. Lead also concentrates in drinking water.

Children are more affected by lead exposure than adults. Lead poisoning for the most part, is silent. **Most poisoned children have no symptoms.** Lead poisoning is widespread and preventable. Here are some things you can do to protect your family from lead poisoning.



Incinerators produce about 550 pounds of hazardous ash for each ton of household or commercial waste burned.

What the Local Dry Cleaning Shop Uses

Solvents: ***perchloroethylene, petroleum solvents, freon 1,2,3.***

Despotting Chemicals: ***trichloroethane, methylchloroform, ammonia, peroxides, hydrochloric acid, rust removers, amyl acitate.***

There is evidence that most cancer-causing chemicals also cause birth defects.

A total of 2.7 billion pounds of toxics per year are emitted into the atmosphere nationally from fumes and burning hazardous waste. Air emissions represent 39% of all toxics released.

Lead Tips:

1) Tape plastic over window sills or lower wall areas where paint chips and lead dust accumulates. Lead paint tastes sweet, which can attract children to keep eating it, if they ever put it in their mouths.

2) Do not try to remove lead paint yourself.
sanding will release dust with lead into the air and onto the floor.

3) Use a wet mop to clean away paint chips and dust. Vacuum cleaners just blow the dust back into the air.

4) Old houses probably have lead in the water pipes. Run the tap at least 30 seconds before using for drinking or cooking, when tap hasn't been used for six or more hours. Using first drawn water for plants avoids waste.

5) Use bottled water for baby formula.

6) Use cold water for drinking or cooking. Hot water dissolves lead more quickly.

7) Dirt in the city is full of lead. Don't let kids eat it.

8) Test your water and soil for lead (See Resource Section).

Asbestos

If asbestos fibers are inhaled or swallowed, they can have serious effects on your health, which may not appear until 15 to 40 years later. Asbestos can scar the lungs, leading to breathing problems and heart failure. It can also cause cancer of the lungs, chest or abdominal lining. It may be linked to cancer of the stomach, intestines and rectum as well.

More than 3,000 products in use today contain asbestos. Here are some common products to beware of:

Pipe, Duct and Building Insulation	**Brake Linings**
Pot Holders	**Ironing Boards**
Ceiling Panels	**Hair Dryers**
Carpet Underlays	**Floor Tiles**
Roofing Materials	**Electrical Wires**
Artificial Fireplaces	**Textured Paints**
Patching and Spackling Compounds	**Cements**

Don't try to remove building materials yourself ! !

What Else Can I Do?
Ten ways to get the job done right

1) Read the label before you buy the product. Always buy the safest product you can find for the job.

2)Look for citrus and natural oil based cleaners. Beware of long, fancy chemical names.

3) Buy only the amount you need for your present task. Leftovers give off fumes as long as they are on the shelf.

4) Use protective equipment -- rubber gloves, etc.

5) Use pump sprays, creams or liquids instead of aerosols.

6) Open w indows or work outside, when possible, to avoid breathing fumes.

7) Don't wear soft contact lenses when using solvents and pesticides (such as paint thinner, nail polish remover, Raid).

8) Don't eat, drink or smoke when using hazardous products.

9) Carefully seal containers after use.

10) Store products in their original containers in a cool, dry place, out of children's reach.

One estimate says that 13 million pounds of household hazardous waste are disposed of in Boston's sewer system.

Disposal
What to do with the leftovers

1) Store leftover hazardous products or their empty containers until you can bring them to a hazardous waste collection center near you.

2) Store leftovers in a secure, cool area where children and pets can't get at them. Make sure containers for any used or mixed products - dirtied paint brush cleaner, for instance -- are shut tightly.

3) Don't mix different hazardous products. They could create a deadly brew or explode.

4) Use up old paint, give it to a friend who can use it, or allow it to dry hard in the bucket before throwing it out.

5) Don't pour anything down the drain or toilet to get rid of it.

6) Soak up spills with clay kitty litter. Store the material until you can make the trip to the collection center.

In Massachusetts, 45 communities have closed water supply wells because of groundwater contamination.

STEPPING OUT

Stepping Out
Spredding the word in your community

Home generated hazardous wastes are a perfect issue for a community to work on together. There's nothing complicated about it if you just stick to your local concerns. The basic idea is using less of these products where you can and thinking twice before throwing something away.

1) Talk it up. Person to person communication works! Meet with friends and neighbors.

2) Show them this handbook. Start a conversation about how they handle used motor oil or household cleaners, paints and pesticides.

3) Find out which businesses in your community produce or sell hazardous materials: auto repair shops, dry cleaners, garbage transfer stations. Do they recycle what they sell, like motor oil? What do they do with their hazardous waste?

4) Identify who to talk to in those businesses, in community organizations and city government. Who knows about health issues? Who works with the sanitation or environmental department?

The Next Step
Organize

Discussions with friends can lead to a larger effort. You may want to get the word out about hazardous waste to a wider audience in your community. It can be done through small, neighborhood meetings, or with a large, public meeting, at other community organizing meetings, by holding a rally, or by sending a flyer.

Tips For Holding a Good Meeting:

1) Be sure to get people to bring refreshments. Gathering neighbors together is more fun and effective if there is room for socializing and relaxing at the beginning or end of a meeting.

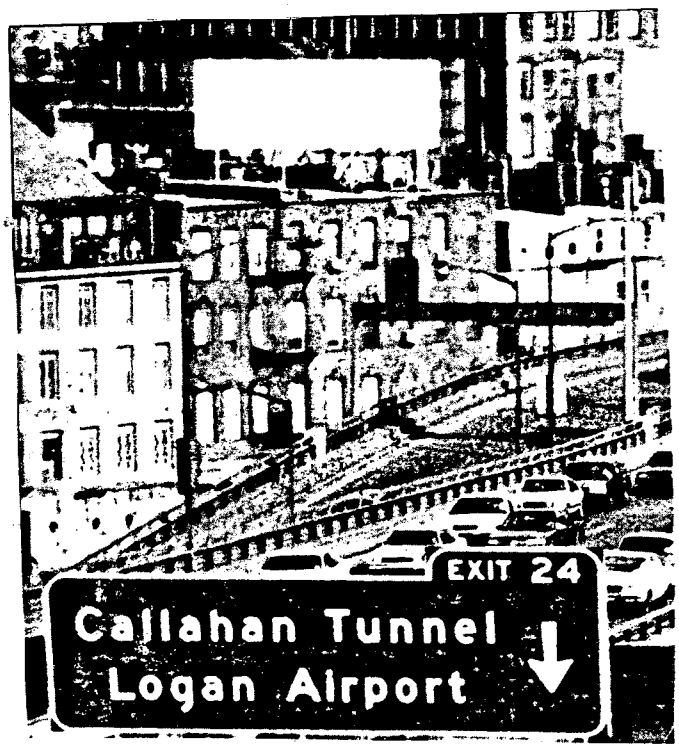
2) Be sure to include people from community - based organizations that support your community in other ways. They have ties to other people and resources that may be of help. To make a volunteer effort work, more people doing smaller jobs gets things done.

3) Decide on a facilitator for the meeting, someone who speaks easily in the group, but is able to listen well and who can keep the meeting on track. You may want to take turns directing the meetings. Someone should take notes. People can take turns with this job also. It's important to have notes on what was said, so that you can act on your ideas later.

4) During the first meeting, give each person a chance to speak about who they are, why they have come and what they would like to see come out of the meeting. See what they'd like to do to help get the effort going. You may be surprised by all the ideas that come out just by giving everyone a chance to talk.

5) Keep the meeting time to no more than two hours so that people don't get tired. Schedule a time for the next meeting before the group breaks up or starts to socialize.

6) Get someone to take responsibility for following through ideas that could be acted on before the next meeting. (Usually the person who has the idea is most likely to get it done.) Don't allow anyone to take on more than one or two responsibilities. If the ideas can't all be covered, save some for another time.



Who to Call, Where to Go
This list will help you take further action

USED MOTOR OIL

Boston:
Used Oil Hotline, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
For information aboutdisposal and list of stations accepting used oil
617-556-1022

112 Southampton Street Garage, Roxbury
Used oil collection every Saturday morning, 9:00-12:00 noon. For For information call Boston Water & Sewer Commission,
617-330-9400

Exxon Used Oil Collection Information
For names of gas stations that accept used oil
1-800-732-1100

HAZARDOUS WASTE

Hazardous Waste Information Line, Mass. DEP
For general information about hazardous waste precautions and disposal. Leave message on machine and call will be returned, usually same day
617-292-5898

City of Boston Environment Department
For information about use and disposal of hazardous products
617-725-4416

Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, Toxic Reduction & Control
Household Hazardous Waste Program
617-242-7310

Boston Water & Sewer Commission, 425 Summer Street, Boston, MA 02210
To organize a community storm drain stenciling project and for brochures and information on household hazardous waste and waste motor oil
617-330-9400, Charlie Jewell

Metropolitan Area Planning Council, 110 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02108
For information about specific household products, toxicity, and disposal

POISONING

Massachusetts Poison Information Center
For poison emergencies and information, 24 hours a day
1-800-682-9211; or 617-232-2120

PESTICIDES

Pesticide Bureau, Mass. Department
National Pesticide Telecommunications Network, Lubbock Texas
Pesticide emergencies; informatio about pesticide products, including health effects, emergency treatment; 24 hours a day, every day
1-800-858-7378

Boston Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, City of Boston, Office of Environmental Affairs, 1010 Mass Avenue, 2nd Floor, Boston, MA 02118
For home lead inspections in Boston, counseliung, home outreach visits, child testing
617-534-5966

University of Massachusetts Cooperative Extension System, Eastern Extension Cneter, 240 Beaver Street, Waltham, MA 02154
For free pamphlet on lead in soil and instructions on soil testing
617-891-0650

INDOOR AIR QUALITY

The American Lung Association of Massachusetts, 803 Summer Street, Boston, MA 02127
For brochures, fact sheets, and audiovisuals about indoor air pollutants and lists of testing and improvement services
1-800-522-2911; or 617-269-9720

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, 150 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111
For adfice about indoor air quality problems, programs aimed at reduction of lead paint use, urea-formaldehyde foam and radon
617-727-2660

Division of Air Quality Control, Mass. DEP
For copy of "Asbestos Information and Resource Guide," information and referrals about asbestos, government agencies, regulations
617-292-5630

TENANT ADVOCACY

Mass Tenants Organization, 14 Beacon Street, Room 719, Boston, MA 02108
For advice and assistance on tenants rights
Boston: 617-367-6260; Springfield: 413-731-8296

RECOMMENDED BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS

The Nontoxic Home, by Debra Lynn Dadd. St. Martins's Press, New York

Clean & Green, by Annie Berthold-Bond. Ceres Press, Woodstock, New York
We Speak for Ourselves: Social Justice, Race and Environment, edited by Dana Alston. The Panos Institute, Washington, DC, 202-483-0044

Hazardous Household Projects Equal Hazardous Waste, by City of Boston Environmental Department, Boston City Hall, 617-725-4416