



Franz J. Camenzind

Listed as “threatened” by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality in 1996, Flat Creek’s water quality, trout habitat and overall health are now on the mend due to ongoing restoration efforts by the Teton Conservation District, Town of Jackson, Teton County, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Bridger-Teton National Forest, Wyoming Department of Transportation and adjacent landowners. You can help by properly disposing of hazardous household wastes, such as pesticides, herbicides, bleach-based cleansers and antifreeze, which might otherwise pollute our waters.

## Waste Not, Pollute Not

What, and how much, goes down the drain is up to you.

By Heather Thomas Overholser, Jackson Community Recycling

Jackson Hole is at the headwaters of some of our nation’s largest river systems, so illegal dumping of hazardous waste pollutes not only our area, but also the natural and human communities downstream from us.

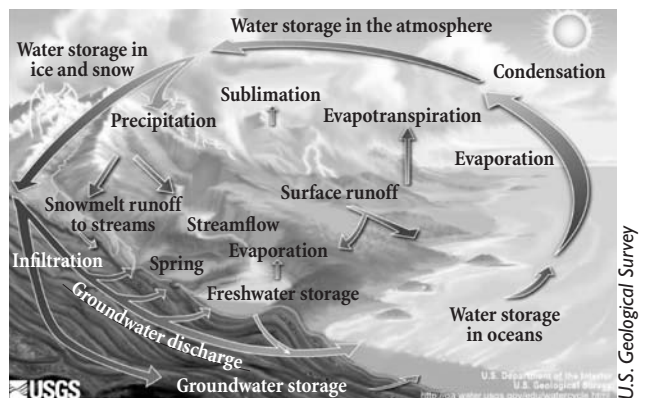
So how can you responsibly get rid of toxic stuff you may have around the house? Jackson Community Recycling offers the only local option for Teton County residents to safely dispose of flammables, poisons, reactives and corrosives.

Before Jackson Community Recycling started its household hazardous waste collection program in 1999, an estimated 80 percent of what’s now being collected was being dumped on fields and down drains, hidden in trash or buried. Proper disposal of hazardous wastes ensures they won’t contaminate our ground, air and water, thus protecting people and wildlife.

A substance is considered hazardous waste if it will no longer be used for its intended purpose and exhibits any of the following characteristics: it’s flammable, reactive with other chemicals to emit toxic gases or becomes explosive, or it’s corrosive or toxic to humans and animals.

Read labels for toxicity and buy brands that won’t hurt the environment or the water supply. Look for the least toxic product that will get the job done, and buy only the quantity needed. Before disposing of hazardous chemicals, check around to see if some other person or organization may be able to use it.

The Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility is open by appointment only, the first and third Tuesday of the month, April through the first Tuesday in November. Call 733-7678 or visit [www.tetonwyo.org/recycling](http://www.tetonwyo.org/recycling) and click on the hazardous waste link for more information. ♦



The Water Cycle – what goes around comes around.

### WATER-SAVING TIPS

- ♦ Fix leaky faucets – a drip per second can waste 2,220 gallons of water a year
- ♦ Toilets use 3 to 7 gallons per flush – flush less often
- ♦ Shorten your showers and install low-volume showerheads
- ♦ Run dishwashers and washing machines only when full
- ♦ Don’t run the tap for cool water – store it in the fridge
- ♦ Wash vegetables in a pan instead of under running water
- ♦ Garbage disposals waste water – consider composting
- ♦ Never pour water down the drain when you could use it for watering plants or cleaning
- ♦ Landscape using plants that don’t require much water
- ♦ Water lawns and gardens in the morning or evening
- ♦ Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered
- ♦ Use a broom, not a hose, to clean driveways and sidewalks
- ♦ Adjust your lawnmower to a higher setting

Town of Jackson