Waste products are a result of daily living. While many types of waste are harmless, a significant number of waste products are flammable, toxic, corrosive and hazardous. Even small amounts of these materials can contaminate ground or surface water if they are not handled and disposed of properly, resulting in serious health and environmental risks. Cleanup is often extremely expensive, so preventing contamination makes good sense both financially and for the health and safety of your family and community.

The results of this survey are intended to provide general information and recommendations regarding farmstead practices and potential risks to water quality. Keep this survey as your private record and use it as a guide for taking action to reduce risks.

See Glossary in Fact Sheet #6 for clarification of terms in this survey.
For each question circle the answer that best describes your situation. At the end of each section add together the numbers that correspond to each answer. When you have completed the survey, add together the section totals for the total risk assessment score.

**Handling & Storage**

1. How far are your well head and surface water from areas where you handle and store hazardous materials?
   - more than 150 feet (1)
   - more than 50 feet (2)
   - 50 feet or less (3)

2. Is your vehicle maintenance area more than 100 feet from your well head or surface water?
   - Yes (1)
   - No (3)

3. What type of surface is your vehicle maintenance area located on?
   - paved area equipped to contain spills (1)
   - paved with no spill containment (2)
   - gravel or soil (3)

4. Have you ever had a large spill of any hazardous waste that you did not clean up?
   - No (1)
   - Yes (3)

5. Does your storage area have secondary containment to capture any spilled liquids?
   - Yes (1)
   - No (3)

6. Is your hazardous material storage area locked?
   - Yes (1)
   - No (3)

7. What type of floor does the hazardous material storage area have?
   - sealed concrete floor with curbs (1)
   - unsealed concrete floor (2)
   - soil or gravel floor (3)

8. Are all stored hazardous materials under a roof or otherwise covered to prevent exposure to weather?
   - Yes (1)
   - No (3)

9. Do you separate different types of hazardous materials in labeled containers to avoid chemical interactions?
   - Yes (1)
   - No (3)

10. Is your hazardous material storage area appropriately marked outside to warn emergency responders of dangers inside?
    - Yes (1)
    - No (3)

11. Do you keep an inventory of the quantities and purchase date of hazardous materials on your farmstead or acreage?
    - Yes (1)
    - No (3)

**Handling & Storage section total:** _______
Interpreting Your Risk Rating

Locate your total risk score on the spectrum above to get a general idea of the risk hazardous waste is posing to water sources on your farmstead or acreage.

Next, compare your risk scores for each section with the ratings (Low, Moderate, and High) for the individual sections to determine the practices where your risk is moderate to high.

For these sections go back to the survey and look at the questions for which you marked a high scoring choice. These are the areas you should address first to reduce risk of water contamination.

Follow Up

Refer to Fact Sheet #5: How to Protect Your Water From Hazardous Waste for contacts and information about hazardous waste disposal and management. Contact your Utah State University county Extension office, or the Extension web page http://www.extension.usu.edu for more information.