



Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology

D-Lab

Hazardous Household Waste

4 November 2015

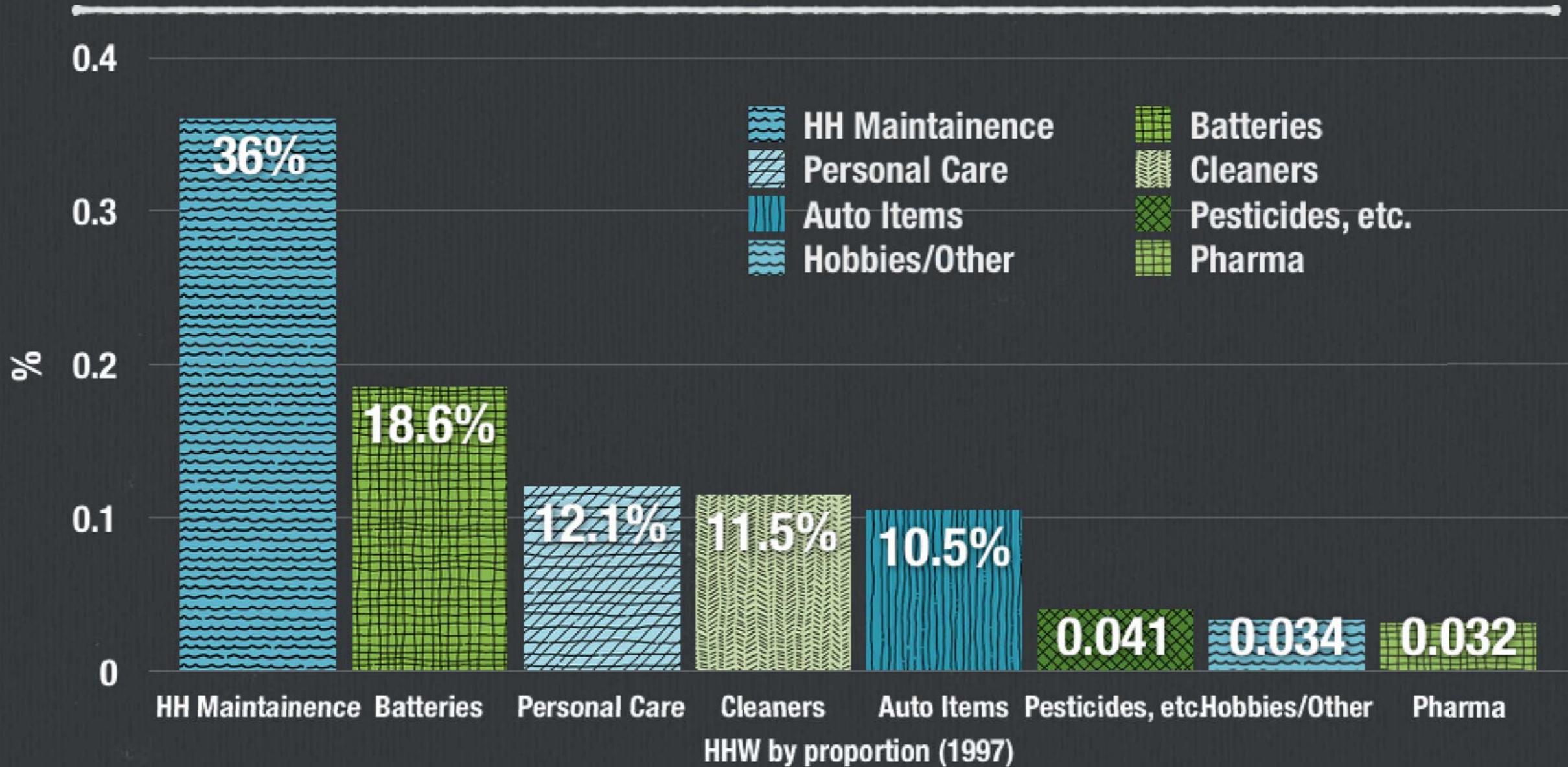
Examples of Household Hazardous Waste

- Adhesives
- Latex and oil-based paints
- Paint thinners
- Nail polish
- Cosmetics
- Lighter fluids
- Used batteries
- Rat poison

[“Solid Waste: Household Hazardous Waste.”](#)

Environmental Protection Agency. 27 April 2016.

Measuring HHW



Data from [Pollution Prevention \(P2\) Education Toolbox](#). Environmental Protection Agency. August 1997.

“...Only 28% of these more than 100,000 chemicals had ‘some data relevant for the evaluation of risk to man and the environment’”

–Paul Rosenfield and Lydia Faug
“Risks of Hazardous Wastes”

Rosenfeld, Paul E., and Lydia Feng. *Risks of Hazardous Wastes*. William Andrew, 2011.

“But previous research conducted at Arizona State University showed that an average American city with a population of 1 million sends down the drain **about \$13 million worth of precious metals each year**”

- David Freeman, Huffington Post
(2015)

Challenges

Regulations

Handling

Use

Disposal

“Every 13 seconds, a poison control center in the United States answers a call about a possible poisoning. More than 90% of these exposures occur in the home. Poisoning can result from medicines, pesticides, household cleaning products, carbon monoxide, and lead.

The most common causes of poisoning among young children are cosmetics and personal care products, household cleaning products, and pain relievers. Common causes among adults are pain relievers, prescription drugs, sedatives, cleaning products, and antidepressants”

– Center for Disease Control (CDC)

Poisoning Prevention. Center for Disease Control. Updated May 2014. Accessed 21 Nov 2015.
<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyHomes/ByTopic/Poisoning.html>

Questions from "[Hazardous Household Products Quiz](#)" removed due to copyright restrictions. Please visit the KingCounty Local Hazardous Waste Program.

Hazardous Household Products Quiz (http://www.hazwastehelp.org/educators/documents/SY_ProdQuiz.pdf)

What are the options for managing HHW?

Videos to Watch

Mark Beal. “Household Hazardous Waste – ‘Invasion.’” 17 June 2010. Youtube.

Lemz. “VeiligheidNL | Don’t Give Kids a Choice.” 7 October 2015. Vimeo.

MIT OpenCourseWare
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

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