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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: David Jeffers
Lakes Region Planning Commission
(603) 279-8171

Thirty-five Tons of Hazardous Waste Safely Removed

Each year residents and property owners in the Lakes Region have an opportunity to safely dispose of hazardous products from their household, reducing accidents in their home. On the last weekend of July and first weekend in August more than 1,800 Lakes Region households dropped off a total of 35 tons of hazardous products, ensuring that these materials will not enter our drinking water or the environment, on which our local economy is so dependent.

Since 1987 the Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) has coordinated household hazardous waste (HHW) collections in the Lakes Region. In 2014, twenty-four communities pooled their resources, along with a small grant from the NH Department of Environmental Resources (NH DES) to provide their residents and property owners the opportunity to rid their homes of toxic materials without endangering the Lakes Region's groundwater or soil. These hazardous materials included oil-based paints, lawn and garden products, household cleaners, automotive fluids, and pool chemicals. The annual collections, held at eight different locations around the region, gave households a couple of opportunities to bring their hazardous materials in for convenient and safe disposal.

The continued success of the collection is due to many people, especially the five dozen volunteers and municipal employees who turned out to assist with surveys and traffic control, and the unloading of used motor oil and fluorescent bulbs, along with the enthusiastic assistance of local coordinators who helped organize and publicize the collections.

If you still have hazardous products in your home that you wish to dispose of, the Lakes Region Household Hazardous Product Facility in Wolfeboro will be open August 16, September 20, and October 18 from 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM. A fee is charged at these collections to cover the costs of disposal; for details, call 569-5826 or 651-7530.

Lakes Region residents and homeowners are encouraged to learn more about hazardous household products and how to reduce their use of by visiting the LRPC website <http://www.lakesrpc.org/serviceshhw.asp> or call the LRPC at 279-8171.

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