

## 2003 WOOD COUNTY CLEAN SWEEP REPORT



One of Wood County's most popular programs continues to be the Clean Sweep Hazardous Waste Collection Program. Homes and farms can bring in hazardous waste at no charge for proper disposal.

The program is paid for through DNR and Department of Agriculture Grants, farmer pesticide fees, and local grants from the Wood County, DNR Marshfield Electric and Water Department, Wisconsin Rapids Water Works and Lighting Commission, Ho-Chunk Nation, Vulcan Chemicals, Stora Enso, Community Foundation of

South Wood County, Marshfield Public Works Department along with private citizen donations. Businesses can also participate in the program by paying reduced disposal fees.

Hazardous waste collected includes damaged or discontinued chemicals or pesticides, chemicals that no longer are used by residents or hazardous waste found on purchased or inherited property. Many residents are very appreciative of the chance to properly dispose of chemicals found on the property of deceased relatives homes and garages.

The Clean Sweep Program protects the environment by properly disposing of hazardous chemicals rather than allowing them to get into local landfills, neighborhood soils or groundwater where wells are located.



Spring collections were conducted in Marshfield and Saratoga. Fall collections were conducted in Wisconsin Rapids and Auburndale.



In 2003, we collected 20,304 pounds of household hazardous waste, 11,554 pounds of agricultural hazardous waste and 4,239 pounds of business hazardous waste. In 2003, 595 households, 25 farms and 10 businesses participated in the Clean Sweep program.

In addition, the Health Department targeted a mercury collection program. Residents were encouraged to bring mercury products to Clean Sweep Programs or to a Marshfield or Wisconsin Rapids Collection Location.

Mercury containing devices such as thermometers, thermostats, switches, manometers, sphygmomanometers and mercury lamps were collected as well as 18 pounds of bulk mercury. Residents bringing in a mercury thermometer received a free digital thermometer.

**Clean Sweeps helps residents and protects our environment.**