



# Clean Up Your Act!

## Do-It-Yourself Green Cleaning

Provided by your Recycling Block Captain, Spring 2016. More guides at <http://tiny.cc/wpatcapt>.

### Why Non-Hazardous Cleaning?

#### Save Money

Using safer cleaners can save you money. An effective household cleaning solution using 1 cup of white vinegar and 1 cup of water costs just \$0.40. Most popular brands of chemical cleaners cost almost 5 times as much per volume! Take a moment to consider: how much money could you save for other things if you made the switch?



#### Protect Your Family

Many household cleaners contain chemicals that pose health hazards to people and their pets - window cleaners, air fresheners, scouring powders, toilet bowl cleaners, and more. There are no government regulations that require them to meet safety standards. The average household contains more than 60 hazardous chemicals, and children and pregnant women are especially vulnerable.

#### Protect Our Community

Hazardous chemicals in common household cleaners pollute our air and water. The U.S. E.P.A. has identified phosphorous, nitrogen, ammonia, and VOCs (volatile organic compounds) as the worst environmental hazards in household cleaners. In addition, cleaning product containers are tossed in the trash, adding to the bulk in landfills, and can pollute our air and water.



### D.I.Y. Recipes



#### All Purpose Cleaner

Mix water and vinegar in a spray bottle. Use to clean the kitchen sink, kitchen counters, and inside of the fridge. Great for removing mold/mildew.

- 1 cup white vinegar
- 1 cup water

*Caution: Vinegar may damage marble or natural stone surfaces. Test a small area first. Rinse after application to these surfaces.*



#### Window & Mirror Cleaner

Mix the following ingredients in a spray bottle and use in

place of commercial window cleaner:

- 3 cups water, preferably distilled
- ½ cup white vinegar
- 1 tsp dish soap

### Get Started!

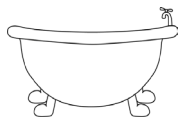
#### Shopping List

- Baking soda
- White vinegar
- Lemon juice
- Dish soap
- Borax
- Spray bottle



#### Important Tips

- Do not reuse spray bottles that held commercial cleaning products. The residues can create hazardous byproducts.
- Always read product labels to determine how to properly use a product.



#### Tub & Tile Cleaner

Create a paste of the following ingredients and use to scrub tiles or your tub with a sponge:

- 1 cup baking soda
- Warm water as needed



#### Toilet Bowl Cleaner

Create a paste of the following ingredients to clean your toilet bowl:

- Borax
- Lemon juice

### Learn More

For more information on hazardous waste and alternatives to your everyday home products:

- Download the Hazardless Home Handbook at [tiny.cc/w06sow](http://tiny.cc/w06sow)
- Visit the Health & Human Services Action Team's webpage at [sustainablecorvallis.org/action-teams/health-human-services](http://sustainablecorvallis.org/action-teams/health-human-services)

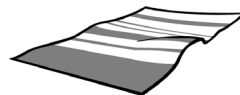
Have hazardous cleaning products that you need to dispose of? Republic Services holds household hazardous waste collection events 4 times per year at their Corvallis location, for residential customers in Benton County. Visit [republicservices.com/site/corvallis-or](http://republicservices.com/site/corvallis-or) or call 541-754-0444 to find out when the next event is and what they will accept.



#### Oven Cleaner

Remove oven racks, crumbs, etc. Spread baking soda on floor of the oven. Spray with water until paste forms. Leave overnight. The paste will turn brown. Remove in morning with sponge. Repeat if needed.

- Baking soda
- Water



#### Carpet Deodorizer

This is a great way to remove unwanted odors from your carpet. Sprinkle baking soda on your carpet and let it sit for 15 minutes before vacuuming it up.

- Baking soda