

The first step in reducing your consumption of household hazardous wastes is to explore alternatives to our everyday products. Listed below you will find some safer alternative products.

Environmentally Friendly Ingredients:

The following ingredients are safe to use and have been proven effective in cleaning your household items: baking soda, borax, cornstarch, lemon juice, pure soap, table salt, vinegar and washing soda.



Instead of:

Traditional Oven Cleaners

Try:

Products without lye

Scouring Powders

Baking soda, soap and water
 Peroxide and cream of tartar

Bleach

One or two cups of white vinegar added to the final rinse.
 One part hydrogen peroxide to five parts water - soak in solution, then rinse.

Pesticides

Soap and water or antiseptic mouth wash solution applied to infested areas; wrap Teflon tape around base of stems to prevent infestation.

Shoe Polish

Petroleum jelly gives patent leather shine and protects it against cracking during the winter.

Window Cleaner

Mix 1/4 cup vinegar and 2 table-spoons of lemon juice with 1 quart water in a spray bottle.

Brass or Copper Polish

Mix equal parts of vinegar and lemon juice. Add salt to make a paste. Apply with a soft cloth, rinse and dry.
 Ketchup can also be used as a polish (rinse with water after polishing).

Toilet Bowl Cleaners

Try baking soda and castile soap or use non-chlorine scouring powder.

This fact sheet was developed by the Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania, 908 N 2nd Street, Harrisburg PA 17102. For more information, visit our website, www.proprecycles.org, or contact us by email at dorner@proprecycles.org.