SAFE ALTERNATIVES to Common Household Chemicals

IT’S YOUR HOME. MAKE IT SAFE.

One of the best means of avoiding exposure to household hazardous waste is to use safer alternatives whenever possible. These suggested alternatives are only a sample of available options.

A few basic ingredients:

Baking Soda can be used as a mild abrasive cleaner and is an alternative to silica-based scouring products.

Vinegar is used as an all-purpose cleaner, hard surface cleaner, and glass cleaner. It is an alternative to ammonia-based cleaners and other corrosive products.

Borax is a naturally occurring mineral found in boron-rich areas in the western United States and is an alternative to chlorine or silica-based scouring products.

Lemons are highly acidic, which makes them a strong cleaning agent. Additionally, they provide a refreshing and clean scent.
General cleaner
Dissolve 4 tablespoons baking soda in 1 quart warm water. Or use baking soda on a damp sponge. Baking soda will clean and deodorize all kitchen and bathroom surfaces.

Window cleaner
Fill a spray bottle with:
1/8 cup white vinegar
1 cup water

All-purpose Insect/Pest Spray
In a blender mix:
½ garlic bulb
½ small onion
16 ounces water
Then add ½ teaspoon powdered cayenne pepper and steep one hour.

Strain well. Last, add 1 tablespoon liquid dish soap.

Pour into spray bottle and spray plants thoroughly, including underside of leaves. Use on leaf-eating insects. Recipe will store for one week in a refrigerator.

For more safe alternative recipes visit www.recyclespot.org
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