

# DE-TOX YOUR HOME

## Alternatives to **TOXIC** Household Products

### Aerosols

- Replace with pump bottle or wipe-on liquids

### All purpose cleaners

- 1 cup of baking soda in 1 gallon of hot water
- 1/4 cup borax and 1 tsp liquid soap in 1 gallon of hot water

### Deodorizers

- Baking soda or cornstarch
- Zeolite is a non-toxic mineral that absorbs odors, bacteria, and mold

### Disinfectants

- Citrus-based products
- Mix 1/4 cup borax with 1/4 cup white vinegar in hot water

### Drain cleaners

- Use 1/4 cup baking soda, followed by 1/2 cup vinegar. Cover until fizzing stops, then flush with boiling water
- Use a plunger or drain snake on major clogs

### Glass cleaner

- 50/50 mixture of vinegar & water

### Household batteries

- Solar power, rechargeable batteries, or AC adapter

### Insecticide

- Caulk around windows, floors, and pipes
- Non-toxic traps
- Boric acid

### Metal polishes

#### Brass

- Olive oil retards tarnishing

#### Chrome

- Polish with baby oil

#### Silver

- Soak in boiling water with baking soda, salt, & aluminum foil

#### Copper

- Use a paste of lemon juice & cream of tartar, leave on for 5 minutes, wash in warm water

### Laundry products

- Combine soap flakes and borax
  - Use borax instead of bleach
- #### Blood
- Soak in cold water, club soda, or hydrogen peroxide

#### Perspiration

- Weak solution of water & vinegar or lemon juice

#### Ink

- Cream of tartar & lemon juice

#### Chocolate

- Soak in club soda

### Mothballs

- Substitute cedar blocks or chips
- Store clothes in a sealed box, cedar box, or chest

### Oven cleaners

- Apply a baking soda paste, let stand for 1 hour to overnight
- Self-cleaning ovens work well

### Scouring powder

- Baking soda paste
- Pumice stick on porcelain surfaces

### Toilet bowl cleaners

- Pumice stone will remove stains
- For rings, mix borax and lemon juice into a paste, let sit for 2 hours

### Tub and tile cleaners

- Use 1/2 cup of borax in hot water
- Sprinkle with baking soda

For more information about the Chesapeake Bay and toxics, contact the Chesapeake Bay Foundation at 1-888-SAVEBAY.



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