

Bathtub and Sink

Sprinkle baking soda over area and scrub with hot water rinse for germs. Use a toothbrush to scrub around fixtures.

Toilets

Mix paste of borax with lemon juice, add to toilet, clean with brush and flush

Windows/Mirrors

Use a mix 1/4 cup vinegar in spray bottle with water. Crumple up newspaper for window/mirror wiping.

Linoleum tile floors

Use a mix one cup of vinegar in bucket with two gallons of water

Drains

Put 1/2 cup of vinegar in drain and cover drain to let vinegar settle and remove what is clogging drain. Wait 15 minutes then pour hot boiling water into drain. Then use plunger to unblock any remaining waste.

Polishing wood furniture and floor

Use a mix of 3 parts olive oil with 1 part white vinegar. Apply solution to a rag and polish wood.

Deodorizing carpets and rugs

Sprinkle baking soda over entire carpet making it look like it has snowed. Wait 15 minutes and then vacuum.

Spot remover for carpet

Mix 1/4 cup borax dissolved in 2 cups cold water. Put solution on stain, sponge with cold water until stain is gone.

Disposing toxic products

Hold onto your toxic cleaning products to dispose of on Worcester's annual hazardous waste day. Dumping these products down the drain contaminates ground water. Call REC 508-799-9139 about drop off and pick up of hazardous waste in Worcester.

Safe cleaning for your home



Did you know that many cleaning products can affect your children's health, and that symptoms can include asthma attacks?

Many of us tend to look for the strongest smelling products to clean our homes. But some of these cleaning products harm our health, even if used as directed. They contain toxic chemicals, harmful for you and your children to swallow, inhale or absorb through your skin. Always use gloves, open windows, always read labels on products before purchasing. Labels saying caution, hazardous or poison indicate the product is toxic. Read labels carefully and strongly consider cheap and safer alternatives for cleaning. There is almost always a simpler, cheaper and safer way to clean your home.

The basics for safer cleaning alternatives

Baking soda, white vinegar, lemon, borax, olive oil, water, spray bottle, toothbrush, sponge, mop, bucket.

For more information about nontoxic cleaning products contact Jen Smith at The Regional Environmental Council: 508-799-9139



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