

You may be surprised at the hazardous products you use and the waste problem they create. One way to decrease the amount of hazardous waste in your environment is to use non or low-toxic alternatives instead. Here are some inexpensive and easy ideas for replacing common hazardous products.

Please keep in mind that even these basic cleaning products should be kept out of the reach of children.

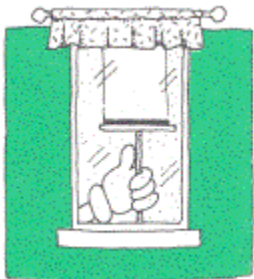
Do not mix these products with any other cleaning products. For information on how to properly dispose of hazardous household products you no longer want or need, call Pierce County Department of Utilities at (253) 798-4050, or call the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department at **1-800-287-6429**.



Tub & Sink Cleaner

- Baking Soda
- Liquid Castile Soap/Murphy's Soap

You can use baking soda in place of your scouring powder. Sprinkle it on Porcelain fixtures and rub with a wet rag. Add a little soap to the rag for more cleaning power. Rinse well to avoid leaving a hazy film.



Window and Mirror Cleaner

- Vinegar
- Water

Just put $\frac{1}{4}$ cup vinegar in the spray bottle and fill to top with water. Spray on surface. Rub with a diaper, other lint-free rag, or sheets of newspaper. For outdoor windows use a sponge and wash with warm water with a few drops of liquid castile soap in it. Rinse well and squeegee dry.



Toilet Bowl Cleaner

- Baking Soda
- Liquid Castile Soap/Murphy's Soap

Sprinkle baking soda inside the bowl as you would any scouring powder. Squeeze a couple of drops of soap in also. Scrub with a toilet bowl brush and finish outside surfaces with a rag sprinkled with baking soda.



Linoleum Floor Cleaner

- Vinegar
- Water

Mop with a mixture of $\frac{1}{2}$ cup vinegar in a bucket of warm water. The vinegar odor will go away shortly after the floor dries.



All-Purpose Cleaner

(for spots on linoleum, tile, and woodwork)

- Liquid Castile Soap/Murphy's Soap

Squeeze a drop of soap on a wet washcloth and rub briskly. A washcloth will last longer and create less waste than a sponge.



Copper Cleaner

- Vinegar
- Salt
- Water
- Vegetable oil (optional)

Mix equal parts vinegar and salt (a tablespoon of each should do) and apply to surface with a rag. Be sure to rinse thoroughly with water afterwards, otherwise it will corrode. Apply a little vegetable oil with a cloth and rub for a shiny appearance. (Don't use this cleaner on lacquered finishes.)



Drain Cleaner

- Baking Soda
- Boiling Water
- Vinegar

This recipe will free minor clogs and helps to prevent future clogs. Pour 1/2 cup of the baking soda down the drain first, then 1/2 cup vinegar. Let it fizz for a few minutes. Then pour down a teakettle full of boiling water. Repeat if needed. If the clog is stubborn, use a plunger. If very stubborn, use a mechanical snake.



Oven Cleaner

- Baking Soda
- Water

Mix 1 cup of baking soda with enough water to make a paste. Apply to oven surfaces, and let stand a little while. Use the scouring pad for scrubbing most surfaces. A spatula or bread knife is effective to get under large food deposits. This recipe will require "elbow grease", but it is not toxic to you or your child. Try spot cleaning your oven regularly; dirty ovens are less energy-efficient. Do not use this cleaner on self cleaning ovens.