

Green Cleaning Recipes

Last Updated: November 2023

Questions or Feedback?

Agency Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Toxic Removal/Hazardous Waste Site:

Name and Location: _____

Website: _____

Phone Number: _____

Green Cleaning Ingredients:

	Estimated Price:
liquid castile soap, 8 oz.	\$7.50
baking soda or bon ami	\$2.00
vinegar	\$2.00
table salt	\$1.00

Green Disinfectant Ingredients:

	Estimated Price:
3-5% hydrogen peroxide, 16 oz.	\$2.00
isopropyl alcohol, 16 oz.	\$2.00

Supplies:

microfiber cloth	mop bucket with strainer	funnel
scrubbing brush	spray bottle	bowl
cleaning gloves	newspaper	towel

Fire Season Herbs

respiratory steams act as a buffer for particulate matter

Choose your available and preferred herbs:

rosemary	bay laurel	elderflower	chamomile
sage leaf	cedar	peppermint	pine
oregano	eucalyptus	thyme	

Directions:

1. submerge herbs in a pot of water on the stovetop
2. keep on low heat throughout the day for ambient steam

All-Purpose Cleaning Spray

Ingredients and Ratio:

- 1 cup of water
- 1 tablespoon of unscented castile soap
- 2 drops of essential oils or lemon juice (*optional*)

Supplies:

funnel, spray bottle and microfiber cloth

Directions:

1. using a funnel, pour water into spray bottle
2. add castile soap (*optional*: add essential oils or lemon juice)
3. spray microfiber cloth and apply dampened cloth to surface

All-Purpose Cleaning Scouring Paste

Ingredients and Ratio:

- 1 cup baking soda or bon ami
- 1 tablespoon hydrogen peroxide
- ¼ cup liquid castile soap

Supplies:

bowl and scrub brush

Directions:

1. combine ingredients in bowl and stir to make a creamy paste
2. apply to bathtubs and sinks with scrub brush
3. rinse clean

Household Disinfectant

Ingredient:

3-5% hydrogen peroxide

Supplies:

gloves, brown spray bottle or spray nozzle and cloth

Directions:

1. put on gloves
2. pour hydrogen peroxide into brown spray bottle or add spray nozzle on a hydrogen peroxide bottle
3. spray in to microfiber cloth
4. disinfect high-touch areas such as tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, faucets and sinks
5. do not rinse or wash off

Household Disinfectant

Ingredient:

isopropyl alcohol (with 70% or greater alcohol)

Supplies:

gloves, brown spray bottle or spray nozzle and cloth

Directions:

1. put on gloves
2. pour isopropyl alcohol into brown spray bottle or add spray nozzle on an isopropyl alcohol bottle
3. spray in to microfiber cloth
4. disinfect high-touch areas such as tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, faucets and sinks
5. do not rinse or wash off

Window, Mirror or Glass Cleaner

Ingredients and Ratio:

- ½ cup vinegar
- ½ cup water

Supplies:

funnel, spray bottle, cleaning gloves and newspaper

Directions:

1. using a funnel, pour water and vinegar in to spray bottle
2. spray on surface
3. with gloves on, rub with newspaper

Microwave Cleaner

Ingredients and Ratio:

- 1 cup water
- 1 cup vinegar
- 1 lemon

Supplies:

microwave safe bowl and microfiber cloth

Directions:

1. add water and vinegar into a microwave safe bowl
2. squeeze the juice of one lemon into mixture (with rinds, too)
3. microwave for 8-10 minutes or until the solution is a rolling boil and has steamed the microwave.
4. remove bowl and wipe clean with a dry cloth

Managing Fleas and Ticks on Pets

Ingredients and Ratio:

- 1 teaspoon vinegar for animals over 40 pounds
- ½ teaspoon vinegar for animals over 10 pounds
- ¼ teaspoon vinegar for animals under 10 pounds

Supplies:

none

Directions:

1. add vinegar in your pet's drinking water

Carpet Cleaner

Ingredients and Ratio:

- baking soda or bon ami
- vinegar
- 3-5% hydrogen peroxide

Supplies:

spray bottle nozzle and vacuum

Directions:

1. sprinkle thin layer of baking soda/bon ami on area to be treated
2. spray on a layer of vinegar, allowing to bubble up. let dry for 30 minutes.
3. once dry, vacuum up well. spray hydrogen peroxide on any other stains left, make sure to saturate the area and let sit for 10 minutes
4. scrub well and dab area with cloth. vacuum area again, if needed

Linoleum Floor Cleaner

Ingredients and Ratio:

½ cup of vinegar
half-gallon of warm water

Supplies:

mop bucket with strainer and mop

Directions:

1. add ingredients in mop bucket
2. strain mop well before applying to surface
3. let air dry, no need to rinse

Granite or Stone Floor and Tile Cleaner

Ingredients and Ratio:

2 cups of water
1 tablespoon castile soap
2 tablespoons rubbing alcohol

Supplies:

funnel, spray bottle, mop or microfiber cloth

Directions:

1. using a funnel, pour ingredients in to spray bottle
2. spray on to mop or cloth and apply to surface
3. let air dry, no need to rinse

Wood Floor Cleaner

Ingredient:

1 tablespoon castile soap
2 cups of water

Supplies:

spray bottle and mop or microfiber cloth

Directions:

1. add soap and water to spray bottle
2. spray directly on to mop or cloth
3. using back and forth motions along the grain of the wood, work in the cleaning solution with a dry mop or cloth

Grout Cleaner

Ingredients and Ratio:

1 tablespoon baking soda/bon ami lemon juice (amount depends on area)
½ tablespoon castile soap 3-5% salt (amount depends on area)
hydrogen peroxide

Supplies:

spray bottle nozzle, bowl, scrub brush and towel

Directions:

1. spray hydrogen peroxide on grout area to be cleaned
2. in small bowl, mix baking soda/bon ami and soap until it's a paste
3. sprinkle salt and lemon juice where peroxide was sprayed
4. apply baking soda or bon ami with soap paste
5. with scrub brush, scrub the grout in a gentle circular motion
6. wipe with dry towel

Oven Door Cleaner

Ingredients and Ratio:

baking soda or bon ami
3% hydrogen peroxide

Supplies:

spray bottle nozzle, scrub brush, bowl and microfiber cloth

Directions:

1. spray oven door with hydrogen peroxide
2. sprinkle layer of baking soda/bon ami
3. let sit for up to 30 minutes
4. with scrub brush, scrub in circular motion
5. scoop residue in to bowl and wipe away with dry cloth
6. follow-up with All-Purpose Cleaning Spray recipe

Drain Cleaner

Ingredients and Ratio:

½ cup baking soda or bon ami
½ cup vinegar
boiling water (as much as needed)

Supplies:

none

Directions:

1. pour baking soda/bon ami and vinegar down drain
2. let fizz for a few minutes
3. pour boiling water down drain
4. repeat, as needed

Toilet Bowl Cleaner

Ingredients and Ratio:

¼ cup baking soda or bon ami
1 cup vinegar

Supplies:

bowl and toilet brush

Directions:

1. mix ingredients in a bowl and pour into toilet
2. let sit for 30 minutes
3. scrub with toilet bowl brush
4. flush toilet to rinse

Stainless Steel Cleaner

Ingredients and Ratio:

1 tablespoon olive oil
1 tablespoon vinegar

Supplies:

microfiber cloth

Directions:

1. drip olive oil on cloth, wipe on to surface
2. drip vinegar on other side of rag, wipe on to surface
3. let air dry, no need to rinse

Cutting Board Cleaner

Ingredients and Ratio:

castile soap
water

Supplies:

scrub brush

Directions:

1. apply small amount of soap directly on cutting board
2. scrub with brush
3. rinse with hot water and let air dry

Cutting Board Deodorize and Stain Removal

Ingredients and Ratio:

1/3 cup salt
½ of a lemon

Supplies:

none

Directions:

1. massage salt on cutting board's surface
2. let sit for at least 10 minutes (or up to a few hours)
3. squeeze lemon juice over surface of cutting board
4. rinse with hot water and let air dry

Cutting Board Disinfectant

Ingredients and Ratio:

3% hydrogen peroxide

Supplies:

spray bottle nozzle and microfiber cloth

Directions:

1. first clean the cutting board
2. attach spray bottle nozzle to hydrogen peroxide bottle
3. wearing gloves, spray hydrogen peroxide on cloth
4. wipe surface of cutting board with cloth
5. do not rinse or wash off. wipe with dry cloth, if needed

Pest Deterrents

citrus peels

rub the peels on problem areas you have (example: doorways or windowsills) to keep away pests like spiders, ants and mosquitoes

planting herbs

plant mint, lemongrass or citronella plants in planters near the outside entrance to your home

cinnamon

sprinkle cinnamon in a line at the outside entrance to your home
pests, especially ants, may not cross the cinnamon line