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 tbsp 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

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