

# Simple. Smart.Steps.

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## **Know Your HHW.**

**H**ousehold **H**azardous **W**aste (**HHW**) is any product labeled: toxic, poison, corrosive, flammable, combustible or irritant that is disposed of.

## **Buy Smart.**

Purchase non-toxic/less hazardous products and only what you need.

## **Store Properly.**

Keep products out of reach of children and pets. Toxic products are poisonous — don't put your family's health and safety at risk!

## **Use It Up.**

Finish all unused products and recycle the containers or donate leftover products to a neighbor or community group.

## **Dispose Properly.**

Dispose of HHW properly at a FREE Los Angeles County Roundup near you!

## **Protect Our Communities.**

NEVER throw HHW into your household garbage, toilets or sinks; never dump on the ground or pour down the storm drains – it's illegal – and HHW can seep into the groundwater, waterways and oceans, causing contamination of our drinking water, causing beach closures and posing health hazards to swimmers.

## **Help keep Los Angeles County healthy and clean!**

Find out how to reduce household hazardous waste and what alternative products are available on the reverse side of this flyer.

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# Toxic.Free.Home.

Call or log on to find an HHW collection event near you!



**1-888-CLEAN-LA**  
**www.888CLEANLA.com**

**PROJECT**  
*Pollution*  
**PREVENTION**



# How to Reduce Use of Hazardous Products:

One way to reduce the potential concerns associated with **household hazardous waste** is to use nonhazardous or less hazardous products, and when it is necessary to use a hazardous product, always be safe and smart. Protect the health of your family, neighbors and the environment.

## What You Can Do to Reduce Household Hazardous Waste

As you make your choices about the use of hazardous and nonhazardous products, remember that the decisions consumers make affect the way manufacturers design products.

- Use products containing hazardous materials sparingly or use a non hazardous/less hazardous alternative.
- Before purchasing a product, read the label carefully to make sure it will do what you want it to do. Once you buy something you are also legally responsible for disposing of it properly.
- Buy just what you need to do the job. Use it up. Give leftovers to a friend, neighbor, business or charity that can use them up. Excess pesticide might be offered to a greenhouse or garden center.
- Select water-based products over solvent-based products when available (e.g., paint, glue, shoe polish).
- Avoid aerosol sprays. Choose the pump spray or other alternatives.
- Be smart when you apply pesticides or fertilizers. Do not apply before a rain. Not only will you lose most of the pesticides or fertilizer through runoff, but you also will be harming the environment. Do not overwater after application. Read the label. Do not apply more than is recommended.
- Have a professional change your motor oil. For a few dollars more, you not only save yourself time and energy, but it's more likely that the used motor oil collected is recycled.
- Dispose of household hazardous wastes according to the directions on the container, or at a household hazardous waste collection event (Countywide Roundup or a local collection event), a used motor oil recycling center, auto parts store or service station. Call 1-888-CLEAN-LA or check the Internet at [www.888CLEANLA.com](http://www.888CLEANLA.com) for the location of an event or facility near you.

## Consumer Choices

We can easily reduce the amount and toxicity of waste in and around our homes, and at the same time save money.

- Careful planning can help avoid the need for many potentially toxic products;
- Careful shopping will allow us to find products that can be recycled, reused or be disposed of safely.

Many sources of household hazardous waste can be replaced with other products that are safer, cheaper and equally effective.

Careful planning and shopping lend themselves to source reduction – meaning reducing the amount of hazardous wastes entering the household as well as reducing the toxicity of that waste. The less waste that comes in, the less that goes out. We can do this by shopping thoughtfully, reading labels and looking for non-hazardous or less hazardous products.

# What are Alternative Products?

## Alternative Cleaning Products

Try these easy alternatives to minimize household hazardous products. Most of these products are very common and are found in most household cabinets:

### KITCHEN

#### Spray Disinfectant Cleaner

- 1 teaspoon sodium lauryl sulfate
- 1 teaspoon borax
- 2 tablespoons white vinegar
- 2 cups hot water
- ¼ teaspoon eucalyptus essential oil
- ¼ teaspoon lavender essential oil
- 3 drops tea tree essential oil

Mix all ingredients together and stir until dry ingredients dissolve. Pour into spray bottle for use. Do not use on glass.

#### Dish Detergent

- ½ cup clay powder
  - 2 tablespoons lime essential oil
  - 24 cups sodium lauryl sulfate
  - 6 cups baking soda
- Mix clay powder and essential oil. Then, in a two-gallon pail or container, combine with the baking soda and sodium lauryl sulfate. Mix well. For liquid soap: add 18 cups boiling water and stir until powder is dissolved.

#### Abrasive Cleaner

- 1 cup fine-grade pumice
- ½ cup clay powder
- 2 tablespoons grapefruit essential oil
- ¼ cup baking soda
- ½ cup sodium lauryl sulfate
- ½ cup boiling water

Mix all ingredients. Apply with a damp sponge or cloth and scrub.

#### Brass/Copper Tarnish Remover

- Salt, flour and white vinegar
- Mix together equal parts salt and flour, then add white vinegar to make a paste. Rub into the stain. Repeat if necessary.

### Window Wash

- Juice from one fresh lemon
  - 2 cups water or club soda
  - ½ teaspoon peppermint essential oil
  - 1 teaspoon cornstarch
- Mix all ingredients and pour into plastic spray bottle. Shake well.

### BATHROOM

#### Bathtub/Sink Stains

Scrub with paste made from cream of tartar and hydrogen peroxide.

#### Soap Film on Fiberglass Surface

Apply baking soda with damp cloth, rub and rinse off residue well.

#### Soap Film/Mildew on Shower Curtains

Pour full-strength vinegar on the shower curtain to remove soap film and mildew.

#### Shower-Door Track Cleaning

Pour full-strength vinegar into the track, let soak for a few minutes, rinse.

#### Toilet Lime Deposit Removal

Pour full strength white vinegar in the bowl, let sit for several hours. Scrub with sturdy brush.

#### Toilet Bowl Cleaner

- ½ teaspoon sodium lauryl sulfate
  - 2 tablespoons baking soda
  - 2 tablespoons vinegar
  - 1 teaspoon orange essential oil
  - 1 teaspoon grapefruit essential oil
  - 2 cups water
- Mix all ingredients. Vinegar and baking soda will foam when mixed. Let mixture stand for 10 minutes before pouring into a spray bottle.

Visit [www.888cleanla.com](http://www.888cleanla.com) for more alternative product recipes.