

Green Cleaning & Healthy Homes

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Overview

- Cleaning Product Check
- Cleaner Pros vs. Cons
- Health Impacts
- Environmental Impacts
- Disposal
- Safer Alternatives
- DIY Cleaners
- Contacts

Contact with traditional cleaning products, even infrequently, can cause negative health effects.



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TRUE



The price of a cleaning product reflects the quality and safety of the product.



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FALSE



It's required by law to list all of the ingredients in a cleaning product on the container.



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FALSE



What's in your cabinet?





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• 20-30 products per household





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- 20-30 products per household
- · 4 gallons of household cleaners used by one household each y





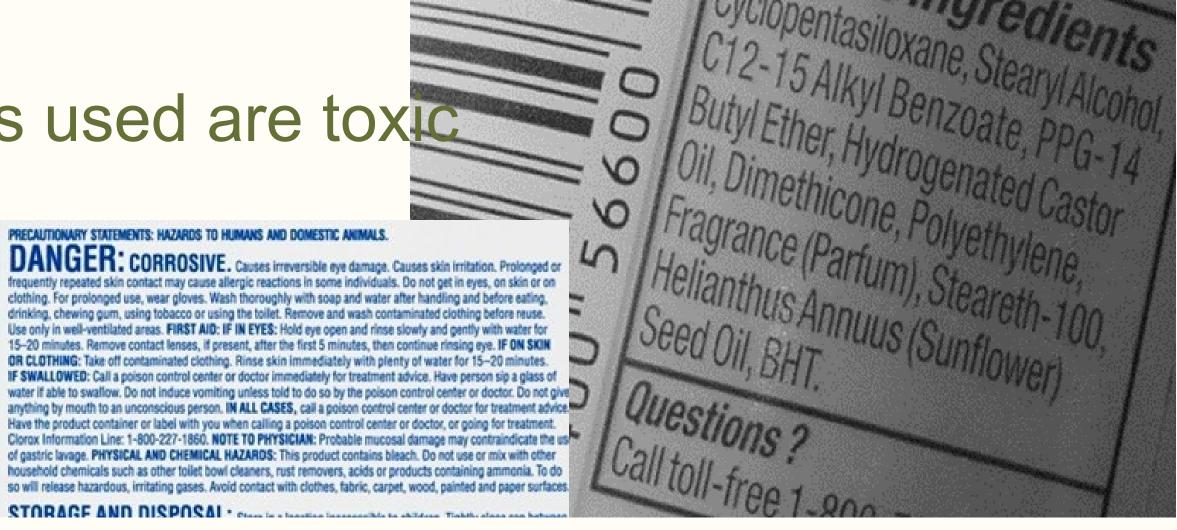
What's in Cleaning Products?

Ingredients are not well tested or regulated

Many ingredients used are tox

Signal Words:

- Warning
- Danger



Health Impacts

Contact

- Spill or contact with skin
 - Red blotches on affected skin area
 - o Itching and burning
 - o Pain/sensitivity
 - Sickness or vomiting
- Ingestion

Smell

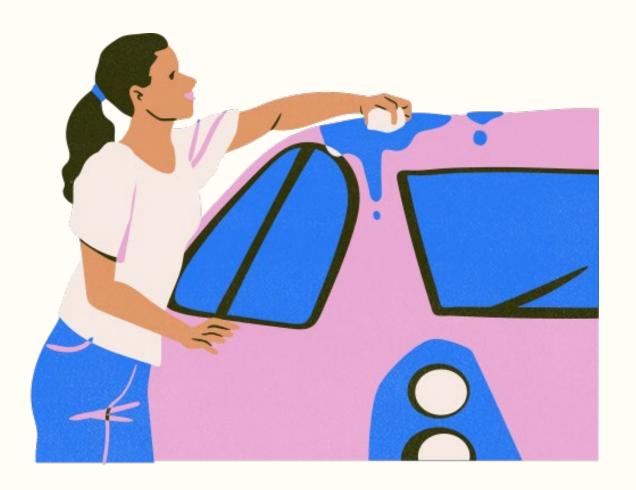
- Chemical fragrances
- Chemical odor
 - Asthma or coughing
 - Headache

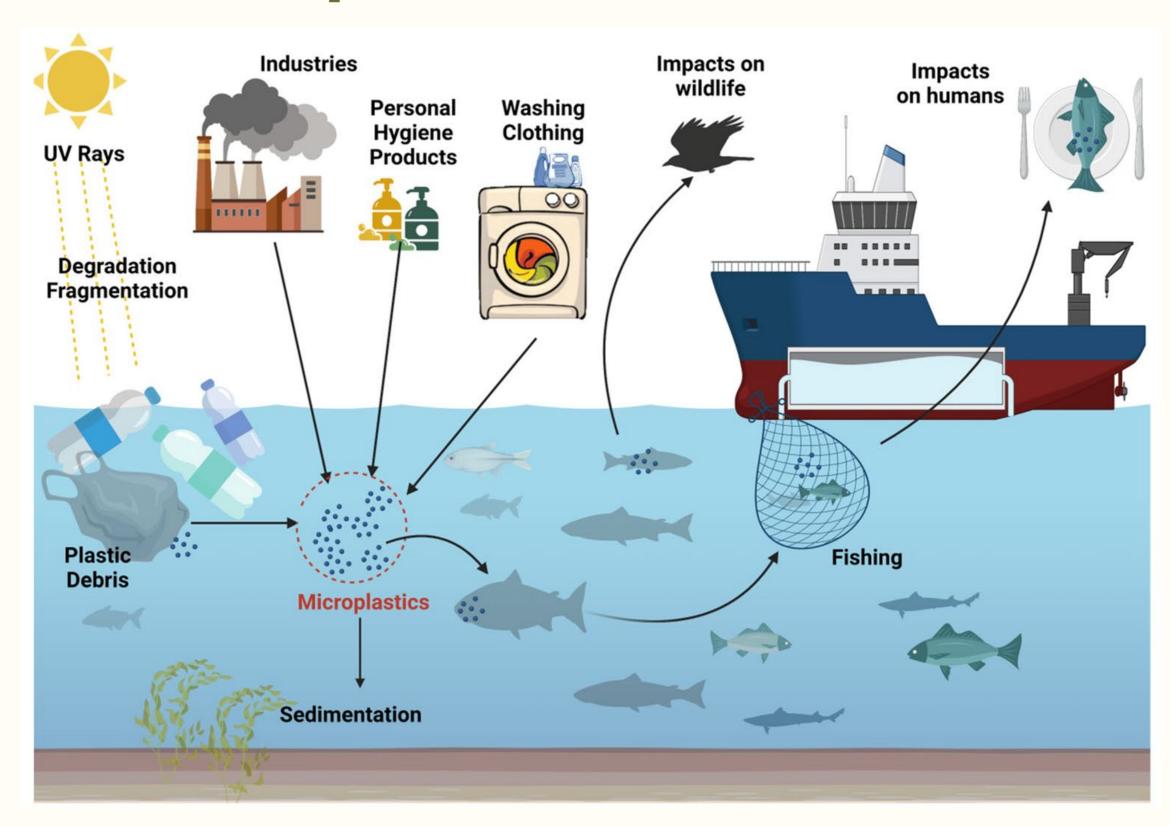
Inhalation

- Chemical fragrances
- Off-gassing of mixing cleaners or using bleach
 - Asthma or coughing
 - Headache
 - o Sidenagg and irritation

Environmental Impacts







What are "Green

Cleaners" are cleaning products

"Green Cleaners" are cleaning products that keep health and safety of people and the planet in mind

DIY Green Cleaners often contain commo ingredients (baking soda, vinegar,

isopropyl alcohol)



Type of Cleaner	Pros	Cons
Green Cleaners (DIY)	 Safer for air and water You make the product (custom size/quantity, custom scent) Usually less expensive 	Time and effort needed
Green Cleaners (Commercial)	 Safer for air and water Have 3rd party certification for environemental practices 	 Perception of being expensive Subject to "greenwashing"
Conventional Cleaners (Commercial)	 We are used to using them Relatively inexpensive 	 Negative health effects Not all ingredients are tested/listed Can be harmful to the environment

Greenwashing

Greenwashing is the act or practice of making a product, policy, activity, etc. appear to be more environmentally friendly or less environmentally damaging than it really is

Usually unsupported and deceptive claims that utilize vague buzz words and imagery





Clorox Compostable Cleaning Wipes, Simply Lemon

Ingredient scores

INGREDIENT DISCLOSURE: GOOD

Ingredients are scored based on their formulation and concentration in this product. Click on an ingredient for more information.



















Worst

EWG VERIFIED!





Certifications



Safer Choices and

Design for the

Environment From the EPA



Green Seal



UL ECOLOGO

UL (Underwriter's Labratory)

Baking Soda

- Abrasive
- Deodorizer
- Whitener
- Good for toilets, ovens, sinks



Baking Soda

- Abrasive
- Deodorizer
- Whitener

Vinegar

- Stain Remover
- Grease Dissolver
- Drain Clearer (used in combo with BS)
- Clothing Softener



Castile Soap

- Cleans surfaces, floors, cars, pets, produce, laundry, dishes, and body
- Streakfree
- Good alternative to standard cleaners



Castile Soap

- Cleans surfaces, floors, cars, pets, produce, laundry, dishes, and body
- Streak-free
- Good alternative to standard cleaners

Hydrogen Peroxide and Oxygen Bleach

- Natural bleach
- Brightens whites
- Disinfects



Tips

- 1.Start Small
- 2.Clean Often
- 3.Buy in Bulk
- 4. Refer to resources and recipe booklets
- 5.Mark containers with ingredients and/or intended purpose

How to minimize hazardous waste in your home

- 1.Use safer alternatives (homemade or store bought)
- 2.Read labels before purchasing. Watch out for "caution", "warning", and "danger". Follow label directions
- 3. Buy only what you need and use it up
- 4.If you have products left over, give them to friends, neighbors, contact local organizations
- Take unwanted products to a hazardous waste collection site or event

Hazardous Waste Disposal

- Use the product until it's gone
- Take old or unwanted household cleaners to a Hazardous Waste Facility such as Metro South
- Visit Metro's website (oregonmetro.gov/recycle) or call 5032343000 for additional locations

Do not throw away cleaners in the garbage

A Different Framework

Do I need it?

Can I find a safer alternative?

Can I make it myself?

Local Soap & DIY Refill

Stores

- Mama and Hapa's
 - o 1389 SE Stark St., Portland
 - o 11122 SE Main St., Milwaukie
- Melior Refillery
 - 16841 SW 65th Ave., Lake Oswego
- Realm Refillery
 - o 2310 NEBroadway St., Portland
- New Seasons (various locations)
 - o Only castile soaps for refill



Resources

- Environmental Working Group
 - Cleaning products database: https://www.ewg.org/cleaners/
 - Personal/skin care database: https://www.ewg.org/skindeep/
- Metro
 - Healthy Homes https://www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-living/healthy-home
- EPA
 - Identifying Greener Cleaning Products (and resources):
 https://www.epa.gov/greenerproducts/identifying-greener-cleaning-

Let's Make a Soft Scrub!



Soft Scrub:

2 Tbsp. Baking Soda1 Tbsp. Castile Soap

Mix ingredients to make a frosting-like paste. Scrub surfaces, rinse with water.

Contact Info

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