



Go Green BE Sustainable Think Green

Getting Clean While Going Green

There's a cleaning product for everything these days: floors, sinks, showers, dishes, furniture, tires, laundry. The list is endless. There's even an entire aisle – or two! – at the supermarket dedicated to these products. The promises are compelling: *NEW AND IMPROVED! NOW WITH MORE CLEANING POWER! CLEANS WITHOUT SCRUBBING!*

We all know that many of these products really do work the way they promise. But what many of us may not know is that most of the commercial cleaning products out there are petroleum-based, which may have harmful effects on both you and the environment.

But have no fear! On the market today are many wonderful “green” cleaning products that are planet- (and you-) friendly and can be found alongside their more conventional cousins in the cleaning aisle. These products are non-toxic, biodegradable, non-petroleum-based, and are just as effective at getting rid of grime.

They do, however, tend to be more expensive. If spending extra money isn't your thing, you can still “clean green” by taking advantage of a couple of everyday products you probably have in your pantry right now.

White vinegar and **baking soda** are two of the most effective cleaning products out there and cost just a fraction of what commercial cleaning products cost. Add a little warm water to either of these products and you have created a solution that can clean just about everything, from tile floors to coffee-stained mugs to sinks and showers.

Be careful when discarding those conventional cleaners, though. Many are not suitable for ordinary trash or drain disposal and need to be disposed of properly. Manatee County hosts a Household Hazardous Waste day on the 3rd Saturday of every month at the Lena Road Landfill. Please call (941) 798-6761 to find out more.

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Manatee County Government

