

# Green Cleaning

## Green Cleaning 101

Healthy cleaning starts with preventing as much soil and damage as possible — such as rinsing and drying showers after daily use or taking off shoes at the door. These consistent little practices will save you hours of cleaning and minimize the need for aggressive products.

## Steps for Success

1. Remove the big dirt first — vacuum!
2. Start with the mildest cleaner
3. Add a dash of hot water
4. Let it sit
5. Apply elbow grease
6. Rinse and dry

## Green Cleaning Tools

### Vacuum

### Squeegees

### Microfiber Cloths & Towels

- Don't wash with fabric softener, dryer sheets or bleach
- Flour sack towels and T-shirts are great for polishing and drying
- Terry cloth is excellent for cleaning

### Brushes

- Different textures work on different soils and surfaces — have a selection

### Bottles and Containers

- 28 oz sprayers, 4 oz with flip tops

## Green Cleaning Pantry

### Castile or Liquid Dishsoap

### Baking Soda

### White Distilled Vinegar

### Lemons

### Hydrogen Peroxide

### Natural Scents

**KIRKLAND  
CONSERVES**

Questions? 425.587.3812  
recycle@kirklandwa.gov

Clean, shine and unclog the safe and healthy way



**KIRKLAND  
CONSERVES**

# Green Cleaning Recipes

## All Purpose Recipes



### All-Purpose Cleaner

- 2 cups hot water
  - 4 tsp baking soda
  - 1/2 tsp castile or liquid dishsoap
  - 12 drops essential oils (optional)
- Mix together in 3-4 cup measuring container and then pour into spray bottle.



### Basic Cleaner

- Castile or liquid dishsoap
- Dip washcloth in hot soapy water and rinse out. Use this to clean your walls, refrigerator, stove, window sills, light switches, etc. Rinse and dry.



### Window and Mirror Cleaner

- 1/4-1/2 tsp castile or liquid dishsoap
- 3 Tbsp vinegar
- 2 cups water

Put all ingredients into spray bottle and shake before using. Spray on surface and rub with a lint-free cloth. The soap cuts wax residue from commercial brands.



### Floor Cleaner

- 1/2 cup vinegar
  - Warm water
- Mop with a mixture of vinegar in a bucket of warm water. The vinegar odor will go away shortly after the floor dries.



### Mold Killer

- 2 tsp tea tree oil
  - 2 cups water
- Combine in a spray bottle, shake to blend, and spray on problem areas. Do not rinse. The strong tea tree oil smell will dissipate in a few days.

Always label your cleaning products. Please keep even these basic cleaning products out of reach of children and pets. Please do not mix green cleaners with other products.

## Kitchen & Bath Recipes



### Drain Cleaner

- 1/2 cup baking soda
- 1/2 cup vinegar
- Boiling water

This recipe will free minor clogs and helps to prevent future clogs. Pour baking soda down the drain first, then vinegar. Let it fizz for a few minutes. Then pour down a teakettle full of boiling water. Repeat if needed.



### Oven Cleaner

- Baking soda
- Water

**Do not use this cleaner on self-cleaning ovens.** Mix water and baking soda to create a thick paste. Put in oven and let sit for 8 hours or over night. Agitate with a dish cloth, scoop, rinse and dry. This recipe requires elbow grease, but is not toxic.



### Microwave Cleaner

- Half the juice of 1/2 lemon
- 1 cup water

Take everything out of the microwave. Combine lemon juice and water in a microwave-safe container. Set lemon water mix on high for 3-4 minutes. Wipe down microwave. Towel dry completely.



### Toilet Bowl Cleaner

- Baking soda
- Castile liquid soap

Sprinkle baking soda inside the bowl as you would with any scouring powder. Add a couple of drops of soap. Scrub with a toilet brush and finish outside surfaces with a rag sprinkled with baking soda.



### Tub and Sink Cleaner

- Baking soda
- Castile or liquid dishsoap

You can use baking soda in place of your scouring powder. Sprinkle it on porcelain fixtures and rub with a wet rag. Add a little soap to the rag for more cleaning power. Rinse well to avoid leaving a hazy film.