Green Cleaning Recipes

**Tub and sink cleaner**: Baking soda, liquid oil soap (i.e. Murphy's liquid oil soap)
- Sprinkle baking soda on porcelain fixtures and rub with a wet rag.
- Add a little soap to the rag for more cleaning power.
- Rinse surfaces well to avoid leaving a film.

**Window and mirror cleaner**: White vinegar, water
- Pour ¼ cup of white vinegar in a spray bottle and fill to the top with water.
- Spray on surfaces and wipe with a lint-free rag.
- Outdoor windows: use a sponge and wash with warm water with a few drops of liquid Murphy's soap. Rinse well with a squeegee and dry.

**Linoleum floor cleaner**: White vinegar, water
- Mop using a mixture of ½ cup vinegar in a bucket of warm water. (The vinegar odor will dissipate after floor dries.)

**All purpose cleaners** (tile, linoleum, woodwork, etc.) liquid oil soap
- Add a few drops of liquid soap to a wet cloth and rub surface briskly.

**Oven Cleaner**: Baking soda, water, liquid oil soap
- Mix 1 cup of baking soda with enough water to make a paste.
- Apply to oven surfaces and let stand a little while (preferably overnight).
- Use a scouring pad for scrubbing most surfaces.
- After cleaned, put a few drops of liquid soap on a sponge and wash sides and top of oven.
- Do NOT use on self-cleaning ovens!

**Drain Cleaner**: Baking soda, white vinegar, boiling water
- This recipe to free minor clogs and prevent future clogs.
- Pour ½ cup of baking soda down the drain first, add ½ cup vinegar.
- Let it fizz for 10-15 minutes.
- Pour down a teakettle full of boiling water. Repeat if necessary.
- If clog is stubborn, use a plunger. If very stubborn, use a mechanical snake.

**Grease Cutter**: Baking soda, liquid oil soap, vinegar, water
- Mix ½ tsp baking soda, ¼ to ½ tsp liquid soap, 3 tsbs vinegar and 2 cups of hot water in a spray bottle.
- Spray and scrub. Wipe clean.

**Dish soap**: non-phosphate soap
- TIP: Try using only half the amount of automatic dishwashing detergent. It should make little to no difference.

**Tile Floor Cleaners**: Vinegar, hot water
- Mix 1 cup of vinegar with 1 pail of hot water and apply to floors.
- Wipe clean.

**Wood Floor Cleaners**: liquid oil soap, water
- Mix 1/8 cup of liquid soap with 1 gallon of water and apply to wood floors.
- Wipe clean.

**OR**
- Mix ¼ cup olive oil, ¼ cup vinegar and a drop or two of lemon oil and apply to wood floors.
- Wipe clean.

**Floor Wax**: lemon juice, linseed oil
- Mix 1 part lemon juice and 2 parts food-grade linseed oil and apply with a rag.
- Let rest overnight until the floor is dry.
- Buff completely smooth.

**Pot and Pan Cleaner**: baking soda, salt, water
- Mix 3 tbsls of baking soda, salt and water in a small bowl to form a paste.
- Use a sponge to apply the paste to the pan.
- Let dry then rinse with hot water.

**Toilet bowl cleaner**: baking soda
- Sprinkle baking soda in and around toilet bowl.
- Let sit for a few minutes then scrub clean.

**Scouring Powder**: baking soda, vinegar
- Mix 1 cup baking soda and ¼ cup vinegar in a small bowl.
- Rub on surfaces with a damp sponge.
- Let stand for a few minutes then rinse well.

**Soft Scrubber**: baking soda, liquid oil soap
- Mix ¼ cup baking soda and liquid oil soap to form a paste.
- Apply with sponge and wipe clean.
**Carpet Deodorizer:** baking soda
- Sprinkle one box of baking soda over carpet and let rest overnight.
- Vacuum.

**Carpet Stain Remover:** club soda
- Apply to stain and scrub.
- OR
- Mix ¼ cup vinegar and ¼ cup water and rub on carpet.
- Rinse with water.

**Wood Furniture:** linseed, vinegar and lemon juice
- Mix 1/8 cup linseed, 1/6 cup vinegar and ¼ cup lemon juice.
- Rub into wood using a soft cloth.

**Leather cleaner:** olive oil, lemon juice
- Mix ¼ cup of olive oil and a few drops of lemon juice.
- Saturate cloth and apply.

**Vinyl cleaner:** vinegar, liquid oil soap, water
- Mix ¼ cup vinegar, ¼ tsp. liquid oil soap and water.
- Saturate cloth and apply.

**Laundry Soap:** use non-phosphate liquid detergents or laundry soaps

**Laundry bleach:** lemon juice
- Add ¼ cup of lemon juice to laundry

**Laundry starch:** cornstarch, cold water
- Mix 1 tbls. Cornstarch and 1 pint cold water in a spray bottle and shake to dissolve cornstarch.

**AIR FRESHENERS**

**General fresheners:**
- Place of couple tbls. of baking soda in a dish and leave on counter.
- OR
- Place slices of your favorite citrus fruit (lemon, grapefruit or orange) in a pot.
- Add enough water to cover the fruit.
- Simmer over low heat for an hour or two.
- OR
- Boil some cinnamon and cloves in water.

**Kitchen and cooking odors:**
- Boil 1 tbls. white vinegar and 1 cup of water in a small pot.
- OR
- Place pure vanilla on a cotton ball in a small saucer. Place where needed
- NOTICE: vanilla contains alcohol and should be kept away from children

**PEST CONTROLS**

**Ants:**
- Crumble and place dried bay leaves in doorways and window seals to eliminate ants.
- OR
- Wash countertops with equal parts of vinegar and water.
- OR
- Find where ants are entering and squeeze lemon juice in the hole or crack.
- Put the peeling around the entrance.

**Cockroaches:**
- Mix equal parts of powdered sugar and baking soda and sprinkle where cockroaches might live.

**Houseflies:**
- Scratch the skin of an orange and leave out.
- Hang a cluster of cloves
- Flies are repelled by both of these ingredients.

**METAL CLEANER**

**Aluminum cleaners:** Cream of tarter, vinegar
- Mix 2 tbls. cream of tarter and vinegar to make a stiff paste.
- Rub on metal and let dry.
- Wash paste off with hot water and dry with a cloth.

**Copper Cleaner:** White vinegar, water, salt
- Mix a tablespoon of vinegar and a tablespoon of salt and apply to the surfaces with a rag.
- Rinse thoroughly with water afterwards to avoid corrosion. Do NOT use on laquered finishes

**Chrome Cleaner:** baking soda, water
- Mix 3 tbls. baking soda and water to make a paste.
- Apply to metal and rinse.

**Silver Cleaner:** baking soda, aluminum foil, water
- Put foil in the bottom of a big pan.
- Add 2 to 3 inches of water (enough to cover the silver), 1 tbls. baking soda and salt.
- Bring to a boil.
- Add silver pieces and boil 2 to 3 minutes.
- Remove from pan, rinse well and dry.

**Stainless steel cleaner** (baking soda, water)
- Mix 3 tbls. baking soda and water to make a paste.
- Apply with a scouring pad.
- Rinse well to remove all residue.