



Green Cleaning Recipes:

Kitchen:

Cabinet Cleaner:

- 2 parts baking soda
 - 1 part oil (vegetable, canola, olive)
1. Combine ingredients and stir
 2. Apply to cabinets and wipe with a moist cloth

Coffee Maker Cleaner (automatic or Keurig):

- Vinegar

White distilled vinegar can help to dissolve mineral deposits that collect in automatic drip coffee makers from hard water.

1. Fill the reservoir with white distilled vinegar
2. Run through a brewing cycle
3. Rinse thoroughly with water when the cycle is finished.

(Be sure to check the owner's manual for specific instructions.)

Dishwasher Soap:

- 8 ounces of Castile Soap
 - 1 cup of water
 - 2 teaspoons of lemon juice
1. Combine ingredients in a bowl or squirt bottle
 2. Stir or shake gently
 3. Place one tablespoon of the above mixture into the OPEN compartment of your dishwasher
 4. Add a cup of white vinegar to the CLOSED compartment.

Microwave Cleaner:

- ½ cup vinegar
 - 2 cups water
1. Combine ingredients in a microwave safe bowl
 2. Heat on high for 3-4 minutes
 3. Remove bowl and wipe down inside of microwave

Garbage Disposal Cleaner:

- 1 cup vinegar
 - 1 Tablespoons of dried rosemary (substitute 2-3 fresh sprigs if you don't have dried rosemary on hand)
 - Lemon and orange peels (the more you use, the stronger the citrus scent will be.)
 - Ice cube tray
1. Fill your ice cube tray about ¾ of the way to the top with white vinegar.
 2. Slice citrus peels (oranges, limes, grapefruit, or lemons – whatever was destined for the compost bin) into thin slices, then cut in half again to make small chunks.
 3. Place the peel into the ice tray.
 4. Sprinkle a small amount of rosemary into each cube as well.
 5. Place your ice cube tray in the freezer and allow it to set for approximately 2 hours, or until frozen.
 6. Place 2 - 4 ice cubes in the garbage disposal and turn it on. The vinegar cuts through grime, the citrus helps to clean, and all three ingredients work to disinfect.

Stove top Cleaner:

- 1 Tablespoon Baking Soda
 - 3 drops Citrus Essential Oil (orange, grapefruit, etc.)
 - ½ Tablespoon Water
1. Combine baking soda and water until they create a paste
 2. Add 3 drops of citrus essential oil and mix
 3. Spread paste directly onto the cook top, and clean.



Bathroom:

Glass and Mirror Cleaner:

- 1 cup vinegar
 - ½ cup distilled water
 - 8 drops citrus essential oil (optional)
1. Combine ingredients in a spray bottle
 2. Spray on glass and wipe with a cloth

Toilet Fizz Bombs:

- 1 cup baking soda
 - 1/3 cup citric acid
 - 30-40 drops of essential oil
 - ½ teaspoon vinegar
 - 1 tablespoon hydrogen peroxide
 - Spray bottle
1. Mix the baking soda and citric acid in a bowl
 2. Add the essential oils and mix with a fork (at this point the mixture will be very dry)
 3. Take the spray bottle of water and start misting the mixture, while continuing to mix and fluff with the fork.
 4. When the mixture starts to clump, pick up a small amount with your hand. If you can form a loose ball you're complete. If not, continue misting and mixing until you are able
Note: if you add too much water, your mixture will start to fizz. Stop immediately. You want the fizzing action to happen in the toilet bowl.
 5. Take a spoonful of the mixture and stuff it into an ice cube tray
 6. Let the toilet bombs dry overnight
 7. Place in an airtight container for storage (ex. Mason jar)
 8. On cleaning day: drop the toilet bomb into the bowl, and let it bubble and fizz until dissolved. Wait 20-30 minutes, and clean the bowl with a toilet brush, and flush.

Showerhead Cleaner:

- 1/3 cup baking soda
 - 1 cup white vinegar
 - 1 plastic bag
 - 1 Twist tie
1. Pour baking soda into the bag
 2. Place the bag over the shower head
 3. Add the vinegar
 4. Secure bag over shower head with the twist tie
 5. Let sit several hours or overnight.

Household:

All-purpose cleaner:

- 3 cups distilled water
 - 1 cup vinegar
 - 5 drops lemon essential oil
 - 15 drops tea tree essential oil
1. Combine ingredients in a spray bottle
 2. Fill the remainder of the bottle with hot water

Air Freshener:

- ½ cup rubbing alcohol
 - 1 cup water
 - Essential oil (of your choice)
 - Spray bottle
1. Combine ingredients in spray bottle
 2. Spray throughout room or on upholstery

Drain Cleaner:

- 1 cup baking soda
 - 1 cup white vinegar
 - 1 gallon boiling water
1. Pour the baking soda down the drain
 2. Pour the vinegar down the drain
 3. Wait 5 minutes, or until the fizzing ceases
 4. Pour the boiling water down the drain
 5. Repeat as necessary

Furniture Polish:

- 2 cups distilled water
- 1 Tablespoon olive oil



- Lemon juice (squeeze 1 lemon)
1. Combine ingredients in a spray bottle
 2. Test on wood before use

Wood Cleaner for water or alcohol marks:

- ½ cup distilled water
 - ½ cup vinegar
1. Combine ingredients
 2. Rub with the grain and polish for the best results.

Cleaning Wipes:

- 1 cup distilled water
 - 1 cup vinegar
 - 15 drops lavender essential oil
 - 5 drops lemon essential oil
 - 5 drops tea tree essential oil
 - Large glass jar with lid (24 oz mason jar)
 - 4 washcloths
1. Roll the washcloths and place in a jar
 2. In a small bowl combine the water, vinegar, and essential oils.
 3. Pour vinegar mixture over the washcloths, pressing the washcloths down into the liquid. The washcloths should be wet, and you may choose to add more water if needed.
 4. Close the lid on the jar
- Remove the washcloths from the jar as needed. Launder used washcloths, and repeat the process.

*Use water-based products quickly. This product does not contain a preservative and runs the risk of bacterial introduction.

Floor Cleaner:

- 2 cups warm water
 - 1-2 drops castile soap
 - 3-5 drops tea tree essential oil
1. Combine ingredients in a container and mix.

Toilet/Bathroom Cleaner:

- 1 cup water

- 1/8 cup castile soap
 - 10 drops peppermint essential oil
 - 10 drops melaleuca essential oil
1. Combine ingredients in a container and mix.

Granite Cleaner:

- ¼ cup rubbing alcohol
 - 1 teaspoon castile soap or dawn dish soap
 - 1 cup water
1. Combine ingredients in a sterile spray bottle and shake.

Natural Lysol:

- 2 cups water
 - 10 drops lemon essential oil
 - 5 drops lavender essential oil
 - 15 drops rosemary essential oil
 - 15 drops melaleuca essential oil
1. Add ingredients into a plastic bottle
 2. Cap the bottle and shake.

Laundry:

Fabric Softener:

- 1 cup distilled water
 - 4 cups vinegar
 - 2 teaspoons baking soda
 - 20 drops essential oil (tea tree)
1. Combine water and baking soda
 2. Slowly pour in vinegar
 3. Add 10 drops of essential oil
 4. Stir slowly

Bleach Alternative:

- 12 cups water
 - 1/4 cup lemon juice
 - 1 cup hydrogen peroxide
1. Mix ingredients together and place in a dark container.
 2. Add 2 cups per wash load or put in spray bottle and use as a household cleaner.



Stain Remover:

- 1 Tablespoon baking soda
 - 4 Tablespoon dish or castile soap
 - 8 Tablespoons hydrogen peroxide
1. Combine all ingredients in a small jar and stir to combine well.
 2. Apply directly to the stain and rub gently with your finger, a piece of fabric or an old toothbrush. Allow stain remover to sit for at least 15 minutes, or up to an hour. Wash normally.

Personal Care:

Hand soap:

- ¾ cup water
 - 5 drops tea tree
 - ¼ cup castile soap
 - 5 drops peppermint oil
1. Combine ingredients and pour into container

Make-up Brush Cleaner:

- 8 oz vinegar
 - 1.6 oz rubbing alcohol
 - ½ Tablespoon dish soap
 - ½ Tablespoon mild shampoo or baby shampoo
 - 1 Tablespoon conditioner
2. Combine all ingredients in a mason jar or other container
 3. Stir well
 4. Wet brush bristles. Rub them to lather the soap and rinse until water runs clean. You may have to repeat if brushes are very dirty.
 5. Lay brushes flat on a towel to dry

Hand Sanitizer Spray:

- 2 ounces witch hazel
- 1 teaspoon vitamin e oil

- 5 drops tea tree essential oil
- 2 drops lemon essential oil

1. Combine ingredients into a small squirt bottle and shake.
2. The witch hazel is a natural astringent and the vitamin E will moisturize

Hand Sanitizer Gel:

- 1 1/2 ounces pure aloe vera
 - 3 teaspoons rubbing alcohol
 - 1 teaspoon vitamin E oil
 - 5 drops essential oil
1. Combine ingredients into a small container with a lid. Shake liberally to mix all ingredients thoroughly.

If you want your gel to be slightly thinner in consistency, add a little more rubbing alcohol, up to one teaspoon.

Will keep for up to 2 months – may need a little shake before using.

Outdoor:

Mosquito Repellent:

- 4 mason jars
 - 40 drops essential oils (cedarwood, lavender, lemon, thieves)
 - 2 fresh lemons
 - 2 fresh limes
 - 8 sprigs of fresh rosemary
 - Floating tea light candle
 - Distilled Water
1. Fill the mason jar half-way with water
 2. Add the lemons, limes, rosemary, and essential oils
 3. Stir
 4. Fill the rest of the jar with water
 5. Float the tea light on the water
 6. Light the candle



The recipes in this collection were found on various websites, in order to introduce a broad spectrum of green cleaning practices in homes.

For more information contact Stark Soil and Water Conservation District at www.starkswcd.org or by phone at 330-451-7645.