

# October Safety Topic of the Month

## Household Chemical Safety

Information taken from eHow.com

We've all heard discussions on going natural and that chemical cleaners can be toxic. Here is a simple guide to some natural, green substitutes so you can dip your toes in slowly.

### SHOP FOR GREEN SUPPLIES:

Make a trip to the grocery store and purchase all your green supplies - lemon juice, white vinegar, baking soda, borax, some clear spray bottles, labels, and tea tree oil.



### TO GET RID OF MOLD:

Clean any moldy areas with a solution with the proportions of 1 cup water and 1 cup tea tree oil (acts as an antiseptic).

### TO REMOVE ODOR:

Use several teaspoons of white vinegar in small decorative bowls distributed throughout the house to remove odors.

### TO CLEAN GLASS:

Fill one spray bottle one-third full with vinegar and two-thirds water for use as a green glass cleaner. Label spray bottle with ingredients and usage.

### TO UNCLOG DRAINS:

For clogged drains (as long as you haven't used a commercial cleaner), pour one part of baking soda, half part salt and then one part warmed vinegar (1-2 cups depending on clog) into the drain and let it sit for 30 minutes. Then run hot water for a few minutes. Repeat if necessary.

### FOR A GENERAL CLEANER:

Use equal parts water and lemon in a spray bottle as a cleaner to clean your kitchen. Label spray bottle with ingredients and usage.

### TO DEODORIZE YOUR REFRIGERATOR:

Place an open box of baking soda in your refrigerator for odor absorption.

**TO CLEAN YOUR MICROWAVE:**

To clean your microwave put a cup of vinegar in a microwaveable bowl in your microwave and microwave for 2 minutes. Clean with water and paper towels.

**TO ELIMINATE COCKROACHES:**

Use a mix with equal parts of Borax and sugar and distribute under cabinet, nooks and crannies to kill cockroaches

If you have hazardous household chemicals (cleaners, paint, insecticides, etc) that you'd like to dispose of safely, contact your local government for safe ways to dispose of these chemicals.

In St. Louis City: Citizens Service Bureau at 314-622-4800

In St. Louis County: 314 615-4030

In Madison County, Illinois: 618-692-8954

**• FMD Injury Data Report: September 2010**

<b>Injury Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Lost Time</b>
9/4/2010	Employee have puncture in right 3rd finger while clearing debris from thorny bush.	<b>N</b>
9/9/2010	Employee was sweeping in corner and stuck head on cabinet corner.	<b>N</b>
9/14/2010	Employee had door handle strike a boil on her side when she was pulling trash.	<b>N</b>
9/15/2010	Employee struck forehead on bracket climbing on ladder to clean windows.	<b>N</b>
9/20/2010	Employee had back and right side pain reaching to stop capsizing maid cart.	<b>Y</b>

**• Hundred Day Goal:**

- As of October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010, FMD is at 15 days without a lost time accident.**
- On December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010 FMD will be at 100 days without a lost time accident.**

