



# SHOPPING TIPS

## BUYING & USING SAFER HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS

### CHOOSE SAFER PRODUCTS

- ✓ Read labels:
  - Avoid products labeled “poison” or “danger”
  - Avoid products with strong chemicals such as bleach and ammonia
  - Avoid products with a strong fragrance
- ✓ Avoid aerosol products
- ✓ Look for products with milder ingredients (plant-based, essential oils)
- ✓ Buy only enough product for the job if using a more toxic product
- ✓ Make your own cleaners. Find recipes at: [www.ct.gov/deep/greencleaning](http://www.ct.gov/deep/greencleaning)
- ✓ Look for products with an eco-certification label such as Green Seal: <http://www.greenseal.org/> that have been tested by a third party independent agency or with a logo such as DfE ([www.epa.gov/dfe/](http://www.epa.gov/dfe/)).

### USE SAFELY

- ✓ Use according to directions
- ✓ Never mix bleach and ammonia. Dangerous gases will be produced.
- ✓ Open windows and doors, run exhaust fans when cleaning.
- ✓ Do not clean with small children in the area
- ✓ Keep all products in their original containers; if making your own – label all bottles
- ✓ Store products away from children.

### DISPOSE of SAFELY

- ✓ Bring any toxic products to your local Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) site for disposal: [www.ct.gov/dep/hhw](http://www.ct.gov/dep/hhw)
- ✓ Never pour toxic products down the drain.
- ✓ Read instructions for proper disposal