



How to protect water from contamination

There is no washing or cleaning detergent yet in existence that is completely harmless to the environment. All such chemicals contribute to pollution to varying degrees, and this is why the best we can do is to use them in a reasonable and appropriate way and, preferably, to buy products labelled as being safer and containing environmentally friendly substances.

Another option is to put some rather forgotten cleaning tips more frequently into use:



Dishwashing liquids and powders

Dishwashing products sold nowadays are toxic and corrosive. Vinegar, water or dissolved baking soda can be used instead.



Window cleaners

Commercial window-cleaning products are also toxic and corrosive. Common household items such as warm water and vinegar (an 11:1 ratio) are safer alternatives.



Drain cleaners

These products usually contain strong alkalis and corrosive and toxic elements that may also cause burning. Instead, you can use a pump or wire to unclog a drain. For regular cleaning use quarter of a glass of vinegar and quarter of a glass of baking soda, then rinse afterwards with hot water.



Bleaching solutions

These are corrosive and toxic. Instead, you could substitute half a glass of vinegar or baking soda.



Oven-cleaning gels and powders

These generally contain strong alkalis and are toxic and corrosive. Avoid them by cleaning the oven at regular intervals with baking soda.