

Abrasive Cleaners

Abrasive or powder cleaners may contain calcium carbonate, sodium carbonate, sodium hypochlorite, sodium hydroxide, chlorine compounds, ammonia, trisodium phosphate, or ethanol. Some ingredients in abrasive cleaners are considered corrosive, toxic, poisonous, and an eye and skin irritant.

Source Reduction **PREVENTS THE NEED FOR DISPOSAL**

While alternatives to abrasive cleaners exist, it is the policy of the Cooperative Extension Service and the Pollution Prevention Assistance Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources not to make product recommendations. If you must use an abrasive cleaner, buy and use only as much as is necessary.

Recycling/Reuse Options **TRY THIS NEXT**

Abrasive cleaners are not recyclable. Try to reuse the product or find someone else who will use it. Perhaps a custodial staff or a neighbor could use the product. The empty, rinsed container may be recyclable. Read the label or contact your local recycling center for more information about recycling the container. Their number can be accessed at 1-800-CLEANUP or www.1800cleanup.org on the Internet.

Disposal **LAST RESORT**

If the abrasive cleaner cannot be used up or given away, then read and follow the product's label for the manufacturer's instructions on proper disposal. Abrasive cleaners may be disposed of in one of two ways. Under state law, if generated by household use, solidified abrasive cleaners can be legally disposed of in a permitted, Subtitle D landfill. Abrasive cleaners can also be poured slowly down an inside drain, with a large amount of additional water. Rinse the empty container, using the rinse water as you would the product. The empty container should be recycled, if possible. For a list of recycling sites, contact 1-800-CLEANUP or www.1800cleanup.org on the Internet. If it cannot be recycled, then the empty container can be disposed of in a landfill.

For more information, visit the Soap and Detergent Association website at www.sdahq.org.

Bleach

Bleach is used as a whitening agent, cleaner and disinfectant. Bleach may contain sodium hypochlorite or hydrogen peroxide. Some components of bleach are considered toxic, corrosive, and an irritant to the eyes, skin, and mucous membranes.

Source Reduction **PREVENTS THE NEED FOR DISPOSAL**

Two non-chlorine bleach alternatives exist that are commercially available. These include oxygen-based and hydrogen peroxide-based bleaches. While other alternatives to bleach exist, it is the policy of the Cooperative Extension Service and the Pollution Prevention Assistance Division of the Georgia Natural Resources Division not to make product recommendations. If you must use bleach, buy and use only as much as needed.

Recycling/Reuse Options **TRY THIS NEXT**

Bleach is not recyclable. Try to use the product or find someone who will. Perhaps a neighbor or custodial staff could use the product. The rinsed, empty container may be recyclable. For information about recycling the container, read the label or contact your local recycling center or the manufacturer. Their number can be accessed at 1-800-CLEANUP or www.1800cleanup.org on the Internet.

Disposal **LAST RESORT**

If the bleach cannot be used up or given away, then read and follow the product's label for the manufacturer's instructions on proper disposal. Bleach can be poured slowly down the drain with a large amount of additional water. The empty container should be triple rinsed and recycled, if possible. For a list of recycling sites, contact 1-800-CLEANUP or www.1800cleanup.org on the Internet. The rinse water can be used as you would the bleach or poured down the drain. If the container cannot be recycled, then it can be disposed of in a landfill.

For more information, visit the Soap and Detergent Association website at www.sdahq.org.

Bleach should not be poured down outside drains, into a storm sewer, or on the ground. Chlorine bleach should not be mixed with products containing ammonia. When mixed, the two products produce a dangerous gas.

Disinfectants

Disinfectants are products that kill microorganisms. They contain ingredients such as ammonia, ethanol, formaldehyde, hydrocarbon solvents, lye (e.g., sodium or potassium hydroxide), monethanolamine, phenols, pine oil, quaternary ammonium chlorides, sodium borates, sodium hypochlorite, or sodium hypochlorite triethanolamine. Some ingredients in disinfectants are considered toxic, poisonous, flammable, corrosive, and a skin, eye, and mucous membrane irritant.

Source Reduction **PREVENTS THE NEED FOR DISPOSAL**

While alternative disinfectants which can be made at home exist, it is the policy of the Cooperative Extension Service and the Pollution Prevention Assistance Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources not to make product recommendations. However, in order to reduce packaging and waste, purchase concentrated products and products in refillable containers, if possible. If you must use disinfectants, buy and use only as much as needed.

Recycling/Reuse Options **TRY THIS NEXT**

Disinfectants are not recyclable. Try to use the product or find someone who will. Perhaps a custodial staff or a neighbor could use the product. The empty, rinsed container (including aerosol cans) may be recyclable; however, not all communities recycle aerosol cans. For more information about recycling the container, read the label or contact the manufacturer or the local recycling center. Their number can be accessed at 1-800-CLEANUP or www.1800cleanup.org on the Internet.

Disposal **LAST RESORT**

If the disinfectant cannot be used up or given away, then read and follow the product's label for the manufacturer's instructions on proper disposal. Disinfectants may be disposed of in one of two ways. Disinfectants may be poured slowly down an inside drain with a large amount of additional water. Or, solidified disinfectant or disinfectants in aerosol cans may be disposed of in a permitted, Subtitle D landfill. Rinse the empty container with water, using the rinse water as you would the product, or pour it down the drain with additional water. The empty container should be recycled, if possible. For a list of recycling sites, contact 1-800-CLEANUP or www.1800cleanup.org on the Internet. If it cannot be recycled, then the empty container can be disposed of in a landfill.

For more information, visit the Soap and Detergent Association website at www.sdahq.org.

Disinfectants should not be poured down outside drains, into a storm sewer, or on the ground. This can cause ground water contamination and/or operational problems with the septic system or POTW. Read the label to determine if the disinfectant can be used or disposed of down a septic system.

Drain Openers

Drain openers are used to clear drains of clogs or obstructions. They are liquid or granular in form. Drain openers may contain sodium or potassium hydroxide (lye), sodium hypochlorite, ammonia, hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, trichlorobenzene, or trichloroethane. Some ingredients in drain cleaners are considered toxic, poisonous, corrosive, and an eye, skin, and mucous membrane irritant.

Source Reduction **PREVENTS THE NEED FOR DISPOSAL**

Non-chemical alternatives to drain openers exist. A plunger or a plumber's snake can be used before using a drain opener. One way to minimize the use of drain openers is to prevent clogs in the drain. Such preventive measures include placing a screen over the drain and flushing the pipes weekly with boiling water.

While other alternatives to drain cleaners which can be made at home exist, it is the policy of the Cooperative Extension Service and the Pollution Prevention Assistance Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources not to make product recommendations. If you must use a drain cleaner, buy and use only as much as needed. There are commercially available drain openers which use enzymes instead of chemical treatment to open clogged drains.

Recycling/Reuse Options **TRY THIS NEXT**

Drain openers are not recyclable. Try to use the product up or find someone who will. Perhaps a custodial staff or a neighbor could use the product. The empty, rinsed container may be recyclable. For information on recycling the container, read the label or contact the manufacturer or the local recycling center. Their number can be accessed at 1-800-CLEANUP or www.1800cleanup.org on the Internet.

Disposal **LAST RESORT**

If the drain opener cannot be used up or given away, then read and follow the product's label for the manufacturer's instruction on proper disposal. Contact the local recycling coordinator to see if a HHW collection program is scheduled for your area. Drain opener can be poured slowly down an inside drain, with a large amount of additional water. Read the label to determine if drain openers may be used or disposed of down a drain, if on a septic tank system. The container should be triple rinsed, using the rinse water as you would the product. The rinse water can also be poured down the drain. The container should be recycled if possible. For a list of recycling sites, contact 1-800-CLEANUP or www.1800cleanup.org on the Internet. If it cannot be recycled, then the empty container can be disposed of in a landfill.

For more information, visit the Soap and Detergent Association website at www.sdahq.org.

Drain openers should not be poured down outside drains, into a storm sewer, or on the ground. This can cause ground water contamination and/or operational problems with the septic system or POTW.

Drain openers can contain very alkaline (lye) or very acidic components. Mixing strong alkalines and strong acids together can produce a violent reaction. Therefore, drain openers should not be mixed with each other, with other products, or with an alternative such as baking soda.

The information contained in this publication is only intended to further the public interest by facilitating the proper management of certain consumer items. This information has been assembled from a variety of sources. The authors make no warranty, express or implied, or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the products, processes, or information disclosed in this publication. No endorsement or criticism of any product is implied. Only the consumer can determine what best meets his/her needs. Local ordinances and regulations may supersede the best management practices described in the document.

Mold and Mildew Stain Removers

Mold and mildew stain removers work by either de-colorizing mildew stains or by killing or removing the mildew. These cleaners may contain sodium carbonate, sodium hypochlorite and other corrosive materials. Some ingredients in mold and mildew stain removers are considered toxic, corrosive, poisonous, and an eye and skin irritant.

Source Reduction **PREVENTS THE NEED FOR DISPOSAL**

While alternatives to mold and mildew stain removers which can be made at home exist, it is the policy of the Cooperative Extension Service and the Pollution Prevention Assistance Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources not to make product recommendations. If you must use a mold and mildew stain remover, buy and use only as much needed.

In order to minimize the use of mold and mildew stain removers, it is necessary to reduce the source of moisture which allows the mold and mildew to flourish. Ways to decrease the moisture in an area include:

- opening a window;
- using an exhaust or portable fan; and
- using a dehumidifier.

Recycling/Reuse Options **TRY THIS NEXT**

Mold and mildew stain removers are not recyclable. Try to use the product up or find someone who will. Perhaps a custodial staff or a neighbor could use the product. The empty, rinsed container may be recyclable. For more information on recycling the container, read the label or contact the manufacturer or the local recycling center. Their number can be accessed at 1-800-CLEANUP or www.1800cleanup.org on the Internet.

Disposal **LAST RESORT**

If the mold and mildew stain remover cannot be used up or given away, then read and follow the product's label for the manufacturer's instructions on proper disposal. Under state law, if generated by household use, mold and mildew stain removers can be legally disposed of in two ways. Mold and mildew stain removers may either be poured slowly down an inside drain, with a large amount of additional water, or the solidified product may be disposed of in a permitted, Subtitle D landfill. To solidify a mold and mildew stain remover, mix it with enough absorbent material (e.g., cat-box filler) to absorb all free liquids. Then place the solidified material in the landfill. Triple rinse the empty container. Use the rinse water as you would the product or pour it down the drain. The rinsed, empty container should be recycled, if possible. For a list of recycling sites, contact 1-800-CLEANUP or www.1800cleanup.org on the Internet. If it cannot be recycled, then the empty container can be disposed in a landfill.

For more information, visit the Soap and Detergent Association website at www.sdahq.org.

Mold and mildew stain removers should not be poured down outside drains, into a storm sewer, or on the ground. This can cause ground water contamination and/or operational problems with the septic system or POTW.

The information contained in this publication is only intended to further the public interest by facilitating the proper management of certain consumer items. This information has been assembled from a variety of sources. The authors make no warranty, express or implied, or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the products, processes, or information disclosed in this publication. No endorsement or criticism of any product is implied. Only the consumer can determine what best meets his/her needs. Local ordinances and regulations may supersede the best management practices described in the document.

Oven Cleaners

Oven cleaners are usually a liquid contained in an aerosol can or in a bottle with a spray pump. Oven cleaners may contain ingredients such as potassium or sodium hydroxide (lye), glycol ethers, methylene chloride, monoethanolamine, petroleum distillates, or ammonia. Some ingredients in oven cleaners are considered, flammable, toxic, poisonous, corrosive, and an eye, skin, and mucous membrane irritant.

Source Reduction **PREVENTS THE NEED FOR DISPOSAL**

While alternatives to oven cleaners which can be made at home exist, it is the policy of the Cooperative Extension Service and the Pollution Prevention Assistance Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources not to make product recommendations. One way to reduce the use of oven cleaners is to prevent the oven from becoming messy. Tips for keeping the oven clean include: placing aluminum foil on the bottom of the oven, away from the heating element; and wiping the oven after each use to prevent the spills from charring. Other alternatives to oven cleaners include using the self-cleaning oven feature, when available; pumice stick; or steel wool.

If you must use an oven cleaner, buy and use only as much as needed. In addition, try to use a cleaner that is noncorrosive (i.e., does not contain lye).

Recycling/Reuse Options **TRY THIS NEXT**

Oven cleaner is not recyclable. Try to use the product up or find someone who will. Perhaps a neighbor could use the product. The empty aerosol can is recyclable; however, not every community accepts this type of can in their recycling program. Contact the local recycling center for information on recycling empty aerosol cans. In addition, 1-800-CLEANUP will provide the location of the nearest recycling center (or access on the web at www.1800cleanup.org).

Disposal **LAST RESORT**

If the oven cleaner cannot be used up or given away, then read and follow the product's label for the manufacturer's instructions on proper disposal. Contact the local recycling coordinator to see if a HHW collection program is scheduled for your area. Non-aerosol oven cleaners that contain lye (sodium hydroxide) may be poured down an inside drain with a large amount of water, if your wastewater treatment plant permits it. Contact your local wastewater treatment plant for more information. Under state law, if generated by household use, solidified oven cleaner or oven cleaner in aerosol cans may be disposed of in a permitted, Subtitle D landfill. To solidify the oven cleaner, mix the oven cleaner with enough absorbent material such as cat-box filler to absorb all free liquids. Place the solidified oven cleaner in a bag or wrap in newspaper before disposing in a landfill. The empty container should be recycled, if possible. For a list of recycling sites, contact 1-800-CLEANUP or www.1800cleanup.org on the Internet. If it cannot be recycled, then the empty container can be disposed of in a landfill.

For more information, visit the Soap and Detergent Association website at www.sdahq.org.

Non-aerosol oven cleaners should not be poured down outside drains, into a storm sewer, on the ground, or down an inside drain if connected to a septic tank system. This can cause groundwater contamination and/or operational problems with the septic system or POTW.

Caution

Oven cleaners may contain very alkaline (lye) or very acidic components. Mixing strong alkalines and strong acids together can produce a violent reaction. Therefore, oven cleaners should not be mixed with each other, with other products, or with an alternative such as baking soda.

The information contained in this publication is only intended to further the public interest by facilitating the proper management of certain consumer items. This information has been assembled from a variety of sources. The authors make no warranty, express or implied, or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the products, processes, or information disclosed in this publication. No endorsement or criticism of any product is implied. Only the consumer can determine what best meets his/her needs. Local ordinances and regulations may supersede the best management practices described in the document.

Toilet Bowl Cleaners

Toilet bowl cleaners are used to clean or disinfect the toilet. They can be in the form of either liquid, powder, crystals, foam or tablets. The hazardous ingredients in toilet cleaners include citric acid, sodium hypochlorite, hydrochloric acid, phosphoric acid, oxalic acid, quaternary ammonium compounds, dimethyl ethylbenzyl chloride, hydrogen chloride, sulfamic acid, lactic acid, paradichlorobenzene, or calcium hypochlorite. Some components of toilet bowl cleaners are considered toxic, poisonous, corrosive, and an eye, skin, and mucous membrane irritant.

Source Reduction **PREVENTS THE NEED FOR DISPOSAL**

While alternatives to toilet bowl cleaners which can be made at home exist, it is the policy of the Cooperative Extension Service and the Pollution Prevention Assistance Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources not to make product recommendations. If you must use a toilet bowl cleaner, buy and use only as much as needed.

Recycling/Reuse Options **TRY THIS NEXT**

Toilet bowl cleaners are not recyclable. Try to use the product up or find someone who will. Perhaps a custodial staff or a neighbor could use the cleaner. The empty, rinsed container may be recyclable. For more information on recycling the container, read the label or contact the manufacturer or the local recycling center. Their number can be accessed at 1-800-CLEANUP or www.1800cleanup.org on the Internet.

Disposal **LAST RESORT**

If the toilet bowl cleaner cannot be used up or given away, then read and follow the product's label for the manufacturer's instructions on proper disposal. Under state law, toilet bowl cleaners can be legally disposed of in two ways. Toilet bowl cleaners generated from household use may either be poured slowly down an inside drain, with a large amount of additional water, or the solidified product may be disposed of in a permitted, Subtitle D landfill. To solidify a toilet bowl cleaner, mix it with enough absorbent material (e.g., cat-box filler) to absorb all free liquids. Then place the solidified material in the landfill. Triple rinse the empty container. Use the rinse water as you would the product or pour it down the drain. The empty container should then be recycled, if possible. For a list of recycling sites, contact 1-800-CLEANUP or www.1800cleanup.org on the Internet. If it cannot be recycled, then the empty container can be disposed in a landfill.

For more information, visit the Soap and Detergent Association website at www.sdahq.org.

Toilet bowl cleaners should not be mixed with chlorine bleach, ammonia, or with other cleaners. Toilet bowl cleaners should not be poured down outside drains, into a storm sewer, or on the ground. This can cause operational problems with the septic system or POTW.

The information contained in this publication is only intended to further the public interest by facilitating the proper management of certain consumer items. This information has been assembled from a variety of sources. The authors make no warranty, express or implied, or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the products, processes, or information disclosed in this publication. No endorsement or criticism of any product is implied. Only the consumer can determine what best meets his/her needs. Local ordinances and regulations may supersede the best management practices described in the document.

Tub and Tile Cleaner

Many tub and tile cleaners may contain octyl decyl-, dactyl-, or didecyl ammonium chloride, phosphoric acid, or sodium hypochlorite. Some components of tub and tile cleaners are considered corrosive, toxic, poisonous, and an eye, skin, and mucous membrane irritant.

Source Reduction **PREVENTS THE NEED FOR DISPOSAL**

While alternatives to tub and tile cleaners which can be made at home exist, it is the policy of the Cooperative Extension Service and the Pollution Prevention Assistance Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources not to make product recommendations. If you must use a tub and tile cleaner, buy and use only as much as needed.

Recycling/Reuse Options **TRY THIS NEXT**

Tub and tile cleaners are not recyclable. Try to use the product or find someone who will. Perhaps a custodial staff or a neighbor could use the product. The rinsed, empty container may be recyclable. For more information on recycling the container, read the label or contact the manufacturer or the local recycling center. Their number can be accessed at 1-800-CLEANUP or www.1800cleanup.org on the Internet.

Disposal **LAST RESORT**

If the tub and tile cleaner cannot be used up or given away, then read and follow the product's label for the manufacturer's instructions on proper disposal. Under state law, tub and tile cleaners can be legally disposed of in two ways. Tub and tile cleaners can be poured slowly down an inside drain with a large amount of additional water. Or, if generated from household use, solidified tub and tile cleaners (as well as those in aerosol cans) can be placed in a permitted, Subtitle D landfill. To solidify tub and tile cleaner, mix it with enough absorbent material, such as cat-box filler or sawdust, to absorb all free liquids. Then place the solidified material in the landfill. Triple rinse the empty container, using the rinse water as you would the product or pour it down the drain. The rinsed, empty container should then be recycled, if possible. For a list of recycling sites, contact 1-800-CLEANUP or www.1800cleanup.org on the Internet. If it cannot be recycled, then the empty container can be disposed in a landfill.

For more information, visit the Soap and Detergent Association website at www.sdahq.org.

Tub and tile cleaners should not be poured down outside drains, into a storm sewer, or on the ground. This can cause ground water contamination and/or operational problems with the septic system or POTW.