



Coalition for a Safe & Healthy Connecticut  
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### *What is Green Cleaning?*

Green cleaning is using cleaning products that are safe for you, your family, your pets and the environment. By replacing toxic cleaning products with safer, healthier alternatives, we can better protect our environment and our health.

### *Toxic Cleaning Products Impair our Health*

Many cleaning products used on a daily basis in schools, daycare centers, health care facilities and other public buildings contain toxic chemicals linked to diseases and disorders such as cancer, asthma, reduced fertility and harm to the heart, lungs, kidneys and immune system. Children are especially at risk because their bodies are still growing.

### *Green Cleaning Products Save Money*

Toxic chemicals that damage our health cost us all in health care, lost work, productivity. Children who are sick not only cause parents to lose income, but their ability to learn and someday hold a job, etc. is harmed. For example, asthma alone in the United States costs approximately \$9.4 billion in direct health care each year. Many safer alternatives are available for the same or lower cost as their dangerous, toxic counterparts. The chart below compares the prices of one manufacturer's toxic cleaning products with safer alternatives from six different manufacturers. In all but the general purpose category, a number of safer alternatives products cost less. The chart is just a sample of the safer alternatives available through the eleven companies awarded state contracts for environmentally preferable commercial cleaning products through the Environmentally Preferable Program (EPP) in Massachusetts.

	Ready to Use (RTU) Cost/Quart						
	Toxic Product	EPP	EPP	EPP	EPP	EPP	EPP
		Envirox 117	Envirox GS	Edison	Chemspec	Rochester Midland	Stetson
General Purpose	\$0.027	\$0.06	\$0.04	\$0.05	\$0.06	\$0.01	\$0.32
Lavatory	\$1.80	\$0.58	\$0.33	\$0.63	\$0.22	\$0.45	N/A
Glass Concentrate	\$0.115	\$0.06	\$0.04	\$0.48	\$0.06	\$0.04	\$0.02
Carpet	\$0.154	\$0.06	\$0.04	\$0.02	\$0.19	\$0.20	\$0.02
Disinfectant	\$1.80	\$0.58	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$0.02	\$0.02

**Economical safer cleaning products are available. Through the use of these safer products, we can protect our health, preserve our environment and cut back on costs of asthma and other health disorders linked to toxic cleaning products.**