

# REDUCING TOXIC LOAD

## 10 COMMON HOUSEHOLD TOXINS

### # 1 Pthalates

Found in household plastics, including tupperware, vinyl shower curtain liners, air freshners, cosmetics, and more. Made from petroleum - used to soften plastic and make it flexible.

#### **HEALTH RISKS**

Pthalates disrupt hormones- affect the thyroid, estrogen and progesterone levels called a "gender bender" by some - feminizing men and masculinizing women.

#### **SWITCH UP**

- Plug in air freshners for essential oils
- Plastic tupperware for glass containers
- Vinyl shower curtains for pthalate, pvc free shower curtains

### # 2 Ammonia

Found in window cleaners, floor wax, counter cleaners, stainless steel cleaners, bathroom cleaners, toilet cleaners

Naturally occurring but higher concentration in cleaners

### **HEALTH RISKS**

Asthma, respiratory issues- skin, eye and throat irritation

- Window cleaners for rubbing alcohol
- Floor cleaners for cedar and sage oil with vinegar mixtures
- Baking soda and vinegar for oven cleaners

### # 3 VOCs- volatile organic compounds

Found in paint, wood preservers, carpet sealers, dry cleaned clothes, aerosol sprays, stored automative products Gases emitted from solids and liquids

Fun fact- VOC levels in homes 2-5 x higher than outside of homes

### **HEALTH RISKS**

HA, Nausea, Allergies, Dizziness, Cancer, Muscle weakness

### **SWITCH UP**

- Paint- VOC free paint
- Discard stored fuel, automative products
- Replace carpet cleaners, stain removers with salt, borax, vinegars

### # 4 Lye/ Sodium Hydroxide

Found in oven cleaners, soaps, drain cleaners, aquarium tanks

Caustic salt- used since Egyptian civilization

#### **HEALTH RISKS**

Skin, eye irritation, inhalation risk

- Oven cleaner- baking soda
- Household soap- olive oil and castile soap combo

### # 5 Chlorine

Found in household bleach, synthetic rubbers, shower water, refrigerators

### **HEALTH RISKS**

Inhalation, skin irritation, rashes, long term- focus, concentrations

### **SWITCH UP**

- Water for water filtration to remove excess chlorine
- Bleach for lemon juice or hydrogen peroxide

### #6 Perc

Found in Drycleaning

### **HEALTH RISKS**

Memory loss, dizziness, lack of coordination- on list of known carcinogens

- Drycleaning- home dry cleaning options, perc free
- Limit drycleaning

### # 7 Triclosan

Found in household soaps, detergents, disinfectants, toothpaste

#### **HEALTH RISKS**

Cancer causing agent, disrupts thyroid causes photo allergic contact dermatitis

### **SWITCH UP**

- Toothpaste- triclosan free (baking soda)
- Disinfectant for citrus oil orange, lemongrass, thyme

### # 8 2 Butoxyethanol

Found in soaps, cosmetics, cleaners and dry cleaning

### **HEALTH RISKS**

Known carcinogen, liver failure, depression

- Drycleaning- home dry cleaning options, perc free
- Limit drycleaning

### # 9 Organophosphates

Found in household pesticides- indoor and outdoor

### **HEALTH RISKS**

Neurological disorders, ADHD

### **SWITCH UP**

- DEET for lemon oil, citronella
- Put away food, seal containers
- Caulk and seal entry points

### # 10 PFOA- nonstick cookware

Found in nonstick cookware

#### **HEALTH RISKS**

Thyroid disease in children, cancer, pregnancy risks including preeclampsia and high chlolesterol

#### **SWITCH UP**

 Non stick for cast iron pans, stainless steel or new techthermalon