

Just So You Know ...

Don't ever mix bleach with vinegar, toilet bowl cleaner or ammonia. Bleach and ammonia produce the deadly gas chloramine, which can damage delicate lung tissue, causing serious health problems, and can even cause cancer. Bleach and toilet bowl cleaners, vinegar and other acids also produce deadly chlorine gas (this chlorine gas is also formed by bleach reacting with air and water, but the acids make the reaction faster). For more info on this topic and other safe cleaning ideas, go to www.louisvillecleaning.com/homemade_cleaners.htm.

Clean Without the Mess

(Ann LaGoy – Fishkill, New York)

I was delighted to receive a copy of your "Shoulder to the Wheel" MaryJanesFarm magazine from my Aunt Terry (Theresa Santmann). I enjoyed reading her memories, and a bit of my family's history, as well as the other articles and information offered in this issue. She pointed out the "Home Safe Home, when it comes to housecleaning" article, and thought it a logical connection.

I moved from Washington, D.C., to the beautiful Hudson Valley in New York about eight years ago to be closer to my family. To pay the rent, I began cleaning houses. This occupation grew into a business that spanned seven years, two counties and many employees. I used commercial cleaners five to six days a week for five of those years, until I had a very serious mishap at a client's house. I jumped in the shower stall to spray it down as I normally did (the product I used contained bleach to fight mold and mildew), but upon spraying, I was immediately chased out of the room by the toxic fumes released. My only guess is the client had used ammonia in the shower prior to my visit. This caused my lungs to burn for about four days. Suffice it to say, my curiosity for natural cleaners began.

Shortly after that incident, my sister gave me a book called "The Naturally Clean Home" by Karyn Siegel-Maier that gave very simple recipes for alternatives to chemical cleaners. I worked with and modified some of those recipes, as well as others I discovered and developed. My employees were very happy and willing to help develop these products on their assignments, and my clients were eager to use less toxic cleaners in their homes (although there were a few die-hard chemical fans!). I had the perfect test market. Over the next two years, I developed an entire line of natural cleaning products. These products are made from natural ingredients and scented with essential oils.

I have since sold the cleaning service, and am concentrating on building and promoting Clearly Natural, LLC. I am enclosing samples for you in hopes you try them yourself, and let your readers know about me. These products are not your typical cleaning products. Simply put, they are much better, safer and more fun to clean with than chemical cleaners!

Contact Clearly Natural, LLC by phone, 845-489-2378, or find them on the Web at www.clearly-natural.com.

