DE-TOX YOUR HOME
Alternatives to TOXIC Household Products

Aerosols
- Replace with pump bottle or wipe-on liquids

All purpose cleaners
- 1 cup of baking soda in 1 gallon of hot water
- 1/4 cup borax and 1 tbsp liquid soap in 1 gallon of hot water

Deodorizers
- Baking soda or cornstarch
- Zeolite is a non-toxic mineral that absorbs odors, bacteria, and mold

Disinfectants
- Citrus-based products
- Mix 1/4 cup borax with 1/4 cup white vinegar in hot water

Drain cleaners
- Use 1/4 cup baking soda, followed by 1/2 cup vinegar. Cover until fizzing stops, then flush with boiling water
- Use a plunger or drain snake on major clogs

Glass cleaner
- 50/50 mixture of vinegar & water

Household batteries
- Solar power, rechargeable batteries, or AC adapter

Insecticide
- Caulk around windows, floors, and pipes
- Non-toxic traps
- Boric acid

Metal polishes
Brass
- Olive oil retards tarnishing
Chrome
- Polish with baby oil
Silver
- Soak in boiling water with baking soda, salt, & aluminum foil
Copper
- Use a paste of lemon juice & cream of tartar, leave on for 5 minutes, wash in warm water

Laundry products
- Combine soap flakes and borax
- Use borax instead of bleach

Blood
- Soak in cold water, club soda, or hydrogen peroxide

Perspiration
- Weak solution of water & vinegar or lemon juice

Ink
- Cream of tartar & lemon juice

Chocolate
- Soak in club soda

Mothballs
- Substitute cedar blocks or chips
- Store clothes in a sealed box, cedar box, or chest

Oven cleaners
- Apply a baking soda paste, let stand for 1 hour to overnight
- Self-cleaning ovens work well

Scouring powder
- Baking soda paste
- Pumice stick on porcelain surfaces

Toilet bowl cleaners
- Pumice stone will remove stains
- For rings, mix borax and lemon juice into a paste, let sit for 2 hours

Tub and tile cleaners
- Use 1/2 cup of borax in hot water
- Sprinkle with baking soda

For more information about the Chesapeake Bay and toxics, contact the Chesapeake Bay Foundation at 1-888-SAVEBAY.