

MINI-GUIDE TO SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING



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GREEN CLEANING

Cleaning in an environmentally friendly way is more effective than most people think.

Follow these three easy steps and you're well on your way:

1. Purchase non-toxic cleaning agents. Look for 3rd party certifications when purchasing cleaning products. Some reputable certifications are listed below.
2. Use vacuums with HEPA filters. This reduces dust and allergens in the air
3. Try using microfiber cloths instead of paper towels. They cost about a \$1 and can be washed and reused again and again.

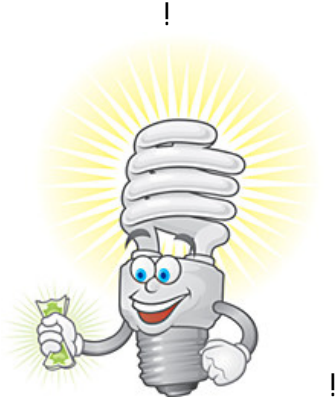
3 RD PARTY CERTIFICATIONS	
 <u>Cradle to Cradle</u>	 Environmental Protection Agency <u>Design for the Environment</u> (DfE)
 <u>Green Seal</u>	 <u>Environmental Choice</u> (EcoLogo)
 <u>GREENGUARD</u> <u>Indoor Air Quality Certified</u>	<div style="background-color: #e0f0e0; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid #ccc; margin-bottom: 10px;"> Montgomery County Solid Waste District </div> <u>Montgomery County Ohio</u> Homemade and all natural cleaning products

Popular green cleaning products include:

- Clorox Green Works (certified by DfE)
- Palmolive Ultra Original Dishwashing Liquid (certified by DfE)
- Method Products (certified by DfE)
- S.C. Johnson Nature's Source (certified by DfE)
- Office Depot green cleaners (certified by Green Seal)
- Simple Green (certified by Green Seal)

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CFLs are the most cost effective, energy efficient way to light a room. However, the downside to CFLs is that they contain mercury, a toxic substance.

When you purchase CFLs, look for manufacturers who make low-mercury CFLs. They're just as easy to find and are the same price. Also, look for the Energy Star to guarantee they are energy efficient.

Common [manufacturers](#) of low-mercury bulbs include: GE, Osram Sylvania, Philips, and Westinghouse.

Montgomery County is home to one of the best recycling programs in the country.

Residents can drop off a wide variety of goods for recycling, including CFLs, to the Montgomery County recycling station.

Learn more by visiting [their website](#).