

This Issue Covers

Page 1

Glass Cleaners:
What are they
made of?

Office Staff

Client Expertise:
Vacation Planning

Page 2

Understanding
Ingredients:
Butyl Cellusolve

Alternatives

Relief Staff



Earth Concerns Newsletter

Volume 2

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm

Office hours have been set to divide home life from office life and to ensure we are well rested for work days. To ensure your needs are met, make sure the office has a phone number we can contact you at during the day. Evening and weekend calls can be left as messages which will be picked up the following work day. The office needs 48 hours (two office days) notice of schedule changes. All late notices of schedule changes are subject to full charge for time slot booked.

GLASS & WINDOW CLEANERS

may contain

organic solvents, petroleum-based waxes, naphtha, complex phosphates, ammonia, phosphoric acid, alkyl phenoxy polyethoxy ethanols, butyl cellusolve.

reasons to avoid

All the ingredients above are harmful to health and the environment. Some are carcinogenic, suspected of being carcinogenic, neurotoxic, central nervous system depressants, build up in fatty tissues, cause respiratory, kidney and liver distress.

health

Neurotoxins and central nervous depressants, such as organic solvents, naphtha, petroleum based waxes and butyl cellusolve, cause headaches, confusion, inability to concentrate, and symptoms associated with mental illness. Ammonia has been implicated in a study of the high incidence of cancer found in women working in the home.

environment

Organic solvents, petroleum-based waxes, naphtha, ammonia, and butyl cellusolve are considered hazardous waste. Complex phosphates cause algae bloom. Petroleum based products are non-renewable resources that are slow to break down in the environment and contaminate air and water.



reminder

Very little research has been done on chemicals in household cleaners. We have covered some of what is known. There is much more unknown than known about chemicals found in household products and their affect on us.

Client Expertise Vacation Planning



Most of Earth Concerns' regular clients take a vacation over the holidays and during spring break. Some will cancel their cleans for this period, others take the opportunity to get those jobs done that never get done during the years' maintenance cleans. Inside those kitchen cupboards, the kitchen walls, all those baseboards, dusting of walls and ceilings...are all spring and fall cleaning jobs which non-regular client pay a higher rate for. Being a regular client, gives you the benefit of paying your usual rate for a job valued higher.

This summer consider the benefits of a home-coming where your home looks better than when you left it. The office can give you time estimates as well as schedule the tools/products required for the various jobs requested.



UNDERSTANDING INGREDIENTS:

Butyl Cellusolve

2-butoxy-1ethanol
ethylene glycol monobutyl ether

health:

Damages blood and body's ability to make blood, central nervous system, kidneys and liver. Neurotoxic.

absorbtion:

Readily absorbed through skin.

found in:

Used in some all-purpose cleaners, window & glass cleaners and many other household cleaning products.

reminder:

Because there is no law requiring household cleaning products to list ingredients (based on Trade Secret Protection Laws) listing brand name cleaners is by no means inclusive. Earth Concerns recommends that you stick to home-made alternatives or companies that have a policy of listing all ingredients on the package.



ALTERNATIVES

GLASS & MIRROR CLEANERS

Vinegar & Water

The mix

Vinegar 1 parts to 1-2 parts water

Pros

- △Cuts gummy residue
- △Cheap
- △You control strength

Cons

- △Runs down mirrors/windows: wipe up any drops that run onto carpet or on fixtures that may rust

Additional functions

- △Doubles up as an attack on mineral/soap buildup on bathroom tiles and glass shower doors
- △Vinegar and water acts as a stain remover on carpet spills/stains
- △Shines fixtures & tiles

Tips

- △The squeegee provides streakless perfection if you keep the squeegee at a constant angle
- △Dry squeegee with dry cloth between strokes

Soap & Water with Squeegee

The mix

△vegetable-oil-based soap in a bucket of warm water

Pros

- △Easy to cover large window areas

Manufactured Products

NATURE CLEAN GLASS CLEANER

About the Manufacturer

A Scarborough company providing a wide variety of product alternatives and is favoured for its revolutionary inclusion of all ingredients on label.

Ingredients

Water, acetic acid (vinegar), essential lime oil, alkyl polyglycoside (from corn), witch hazel extract, ethoxylated fatty alcohol (from coconut), potassium sorbate (as a preservative)

Pros

Additional cleaning power of soap and witch hazel supports a local manufacturer

RELIEF STAFF

For most regular clients having a relief staff enter their private space without introduction is awkward and uncomfortable. For well over a year Earth Concerns has been trying to problem solve in this area. Up until now most clients have vied for rescheduling or missing a clean to avoid strangers in their home. Problems with these solutions has been schedule hassles for client, staff, office and a loss of in business during flu and vacation seasons. All staff providing relief are working for Earth Concerns and have gone through our training. Relief staff are provided with the jobnotes established during the survey.

Earth Concerns Cleaning Service

environmentally safe
non-toxic
allergy free

Bonded
&
Insured



(416)535-9397