



RAVEN RECYCLING

Our Commitment is the Environment

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GIVE YOUR HOME A GREEN CLEAN

The Raven staff will be giving away spray bottles filled with environmentally friendly cleaners over the next few weeks.

Watch for this give-away in certain stores around Whitehorse.

To receive a free spray bottle each recipient will be asked to fill out a short survey.

This survey is about Household Hazardous Waste and will identify if there are gaps in Raven Recycling's education programs.

Household Hazardous Waste is all those toxic cleaners, decorating products and automotive fluids that each household seems to accumulate.

The idea behind giving out environmentally friendly cleaners is to show that there is a better and safer substitute, at least for cleaners.

Cleaners can be made at home and these ones are usually cheaper than buying commercially available products.

A good all-purpose cleaner is to mix together 2.5 millilitres of washing soda (not baking soda!), 10 millilitres Borax, 2.5 millilitres liquid dish soap and half a litre of hot water.

Leave this solution on tough stains for several minutes. Do not use this on fibreglass, aluminium or waxed floors.

A good glass cleaner recipe is just equal parts white vinegar and warm water.

When cleaning glass with this liquid use a piece of folded newspaper instead of a cloth. It works better, and leaves less streaking.

The used newspaper can then be composted.

The best way to deliver this solution is in a small spray bottle.

For those who don't have a spray bottle the Raven staff will be handing out spray bottles filled with the all-purpose cleaner at selected stores around town.

There will also be a recipe card for other environmentally friendly recipes such as all-purpose, glass and drain cleaners.



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An alternative to making environmentally friendly cleaners is to purchase brand names that are “green”.

Read the product labels carefully, but there are many commercial brands out there that are safe not only for the planet but for humans as well.

An example, and it must be emphasised that this is not an endorsement but just one example among many, is Seventh Generation cleaning products.

The spray bottle filled with an environmentally friendly cleaner giveaway is not intended to take business away from stores.

When making green environmental cleaners raw ingredients, such as vinegar and Borax, are required. These basic products are available at almost any grocery store.

It is hoped that by giving out free spray bottles and environmentally friendly cleaners awareness will be raised of the upcoming Household Hazardous and Electronic Waste collection days.

These will be held at the City of Whitehorse landfill on August 7th, September 10th and September 11th from 10 am to 4 pm.

This will be a chance to get rid of household generated hazardous waste items such as cleaners, stain and out-of-date bear spray.

Electronic items such as computers will be accepted as part of the electronic waste collection.

It will also be a chance to safely dispose of household generated waste motor oil, antifreeze and brake fluid.

Quantities of twenty litres and less will be accepted. Please ensure each fluid is kept in a separate container, as the recycling or disposal method for each fluid is different.

For more information contact the City Environmental Coordinator at 668-8312, the Raven Recycling Society at 667-7269 or Computers For Schools Yukon at 456-4365.

Lewis Rifkind is an employee of the Raven Recycling Society.