



GARDENING NATURALLY

BY GARY LOCHTE

Over the years I have become increasingly suspicious of commercial products intended for the home and garden. These products are heavily marketed by high dollar advertising firms who dominate print and visual media.

Perhaps the most dangerous of these products are those used for household cleaning and for common pest problems at home and in the garden. Without naming names, suffice it to say that if it kills pests by means of volatile oils it is not safe. You can recognize them by the way they smell. Yucky!

There are so many safe alternatives. I'd like to provide you with several tried and true "recipes" which you can make at home for pennies on the dollar. Best of all, these recipes do not "slow kill" you, your kids, or your pets.

By the way, the safe alternatives are by way of "essential oils" instead of high priced volatile oils.

The basic recipe will be 6 to 7 drops of the particular oil(s) listed below, a half cup of white vinegar, a "squirt" of quality dish soap, preferably "eco-type" available at most grocery stores, gently mixed into 1 ½ gallons of warm water. That's it!

Spray or pour...whatever you like. You can test the mixtures for skin sensitivity by spraying a small amount on your forearm. If you are going to get a reaction (which is rare), it will usually occur within 20 minutes. Most adults and children should not have any problems with any of these recommendations. It is generally safe and effective to spray your clothing with any of the mixtures.

If you are looking to get a basic starter set of home essential oils, the top 4 oils to get are Peppermint, Lavender, Spearmint, and Cedarwood. These four oils will cover all insect categories and they are the least expensive oils to purchase. Hint: for a pleasant and effective household cleanser, try mixing the preceding four oils and mop your hard surface floors. Wood, tile, linoleum, etc....this mixture works great on all these floor surfaces.

All of these oils can be purchased

at various sites online. And, if you like, you can purchase from me at <https://garylochte.my90forlife.com>

Because the oils are used sparingly, even one ounce of oil will make many gallons of product, possibly saving you hundreds of dollars and decreasing detrimental effects on the health of your family and your pets.

For example: What do you use to eliminate ants in the house, or in the garden? Try Peppermint & Spearmint oils.

Aphids in the Garden: Cedarwood, Hyssop, Peppermint, Spearmint

Beetles: Peppermint, Thyme

Caterpillars: Spearmint, Peppermint

Chiggers: Lavender, Lemongrass, Sage, Thyme

Fleas: Peppermint, Lemongrass, Spearmint, Lavender

Flies: Lavender, Peppermint, Rosemary, Sage

Gnats: Patchouli, Spearmint

Lice: Cedarwood, Peppermint, Spearmint

Mosquitoes: Lavender, Lemongrass

Moths: Cedarwood, Hyssop, Lavender, Peppermint, Spearmint

Plant Lice: Peppermint, Spearmint

Slugs: Cedarwood, Hyssop, Pine

Snails: Cedarwood, Pine, Patchouli

Spiders: Peppermint & Spearmint

Ticks: Lavender, Lemongrass, Sage, Thyme

Weevils: Cedarwood, Patchouli, Sandalwood

Use often, ...your home and garden environment will smell great and be pest free!

