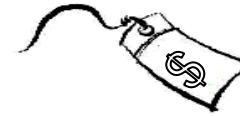


The Cost of Clean



Laundry Detergents:

Linear alkyl sodium sulfonates (LAS): Carcinogenic and reproductive toxins such as benzene are released into the environment in processing.

Petroleum distillates (aka naphthas): These chemicals have been linked to cancer, lung damage, lung inflammation and damage to mucous membranes.

Phenols: Severe toxicity results from phenol's effects on the central nervous system, heart, blood vessels, lungs and kidneys.

Nonyl phenol ethoxylate: Stimulates the growth of breast cancer cells and feminizes male fish.

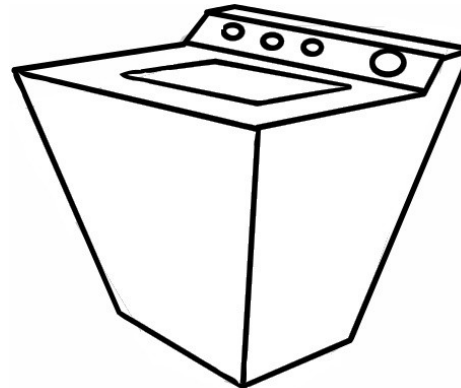
Optical brighteners: Toxic to fish. Causes bacterial mutations.

Phosphates: Stimulate the growth of certain marine plants, which contributes to unbalanced ecosystems.

Sodium hypochlorite (household bleach): Reacts with organic materials in the environment; carcinogenic and toxic compounds are created that can cause reproductive, endocrine and immune system disorders.

EDTA (ethylene-diamino-tetra-acetate): Can re-dissolve toxic heavy metals in the environment, allowing them to re-enter the food chain.

Fragrance: Cancer, developmental/reproductive toxicity, allergies, immunotoxicity, neurotoxicity, endocrine disruption, organ system toxicity.



Cleaning products, air fresheners, dry cleaning chemicals, fuel, exhaust, paint, newspapers and furnishings can contain many toxic chemicals including Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs):

Short term:

Eye, nose and throat irritation

Headaches

Nausea / Vomiting

Dizziness

Worsening of asthma symptoms

Increased risk of:

Cancer

Liver damage

Kidney damage

Central Nervous System damage

Fabric Softeners:

Benzyl acetate: Linked to pancreatic cancer.

Benzyl Alcohol: Upper respiratory tract irritant.

Ethanol: On the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Hazardous Waste list and can cause central nervous system disorders.

Limonene: Known carcinogen.

A-Terpineol : Can cause respiratory problems, including fatal edema, and central nervous system damage.

Ethyl Acetate: A narcotic on the EPA's Hazardous Waste list.

Camphor: Causes central nervous system disorders.

Chloroform: Neurotoxic, anesthetic and carcinogenic.

Linalool: A narcotic that causes central nervous system disorders.

Pentane: A chemical known to be harmful if inhaled.

Fragrance: Cancer, developmental/reproductive toxicity, allergies, immunotoxicity, neurotoxicity, endocrine disruption, organ system toxicity.



Source: www.sixwise.com, Minnesota Department of Health, <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/indoorair/voc/index.htm>

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