

# Non-Toxic Pest Control Recipes

## Protect your home, garden & the Bay

Using pesticides to control bugs—whether inside the home or outside in the garden—can harm beneficial insects like bees, spiders, beetles and ladybugs. These good bugs can help keep garden pests like aphids, scale, mealybugs and mites in check. Try these simple recipes for non-toxic pest control in your home. You can read more about other less-toxic ways to manage pests at [www.ourwaterourworld.org](http://www.ourwaterourworld.org).

Place this handy label on a clean spray bottle.



### Non-toxic pest control

Place this label on any clean plastic spray bottle. Use the recipe best suited to your needs. Always test the recipe on an inconspicuous leaf. Wait 24-48 hours to ensure there is no damage to your plants. Also, even though these recipes are non-toxic, keep them out of the reach of children & pets.

#### Soft-bodied insects (mites, aphids, mealybugs):

Mix one tablespoon canola oil and a few drops of liquid soap into a quart of water. Shake well and pour into a spray bottle. Spray plant from above and below to reach all sides of the leaves. The oil smothers the insects.



clean water  
PROGRAM



### Non-toxic pest control

#### Insects and fungal diseases:

Combine one tablespoon of cooking oil, 3/4 teaspoon of baking soda and a few drops of liquid soap (such as dish soap) into a quart of water. Pour into a spray container and apply.

#### Ants

Mix water and liquid soap, and spray ants directly. If you have a colony in the walls, you may also have to use a bait trap.

#### Powdery mildew:

Mix equal parts milk and water, and spray on infected plants. Three treatments, a week apart, should control the disease.

Protecting Alameda County Creeks, Wetlands & the Bay



## Pesticides used at home end up in our water.

Fred & Izzy want you to know that when it rains, pesticides are washed off surfaces around your home and into storm drains. Storm drains flow directly into creeks, wetlands and the Bay—they do not flow to a water treatment plant, as many people believe. Everyday actions, such as gardening, cleaning and auto care can directly impact water, and the wildlife that depends on it, even when that water is miles away from home.

The Clean Water Program empowers local residents to protect water. Using less-toxic alternatives for pest control, cleaning and gardening, and washing your car properly are all things you can do to prevent pollution. We can show you how.

To learn more, visit [www.cleanwaterprogram.org](http://www.cleanwaterprogram.org).

Protecting [Alameda County Creeks, Wetlands & the Bay](#)

