



Design for the Environment

An EPA Partnership Program



Are you concerned about household cleaning products that contain potentially harmful ingredients?

[Learn more >](#)



The U.S. EPA's Design for the Environment program helps consumers, businesses, and institutional buyers identify cleaning and other products that perform well, are cost-effective, and are safer for the environment.

Look for [products with the DfE label](#) and protect your family's health and the planet.

Find Products with the DfE Label

Consumers

Industrial & Institutional Purchasers

- [All-Purpose Cleaners](#)
- [Window Cleaners](#)
- [Tub/Tile Cleaners](#)
- [Laundry Detergents](#)
- [more...](#)



La información sobre los productos más seguros en español



Frequently Asked Questions



Where can I find a list of products with the DfE label?



How do I apply to get the DfE label on my products?

What's New with DfE?

April 29, 2013 - Now available -- the [final report](#) for the life-cycle assessment (LCA) of current and emerging energy systems used in plug-in hybrid and electric vehicles conducted by the [DfE/ORD Li-ion Batteries and Nanotechnology Partnership](#). The LCA results will help to promote the responsible development of these emerging energy systems, including nanotechnology innovations, in advanced batteries, leading to reduced overall

What is the Safer Product Labeling Program?

The Design for the Environment Safer Product Labeling Program advances EPA's mission to protect human health and the environment. The program uses EPA's chemical expertise and resources to carefully evaluate products and to label only those that have met the program's highly protective standards. By allowing use of the logo on products, EPA empowers consumers and commercial purchasers to select safer chemical products that do not sacrifice quality or performance —and are safer for people and the planet. Design for the Environment labels a variety of chemical-based products, like all-purpose cleaners, laundry detergents, and carpet and floor care products. Look for the Design for the Environment logo when you shop or procure products and join this national effort to protect human and environmental health.



For Consumers

For Product Manufacturers

For Industrial and Institutional Purchasers

Find Products with the DfE Label

Consumers

Industrial & Institutional Purchasers

- **All-Purpose Cleaners**
- **Window Cleaners**
- **Tub/Tile Cleaners**
- **Laundry Detergents**
- **more...**



La información sobre los productos más seguros en español



Recognized for
Safer Chemistry
www.epa.gov/dfe



Furniture Flame Retardancy Partnership: Environmental Profiles of Chemical Flame-Retardant Alternatives for Low-Density Polyurethane Foam



September 2005

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You are here

What Does the DfE Label Mean?

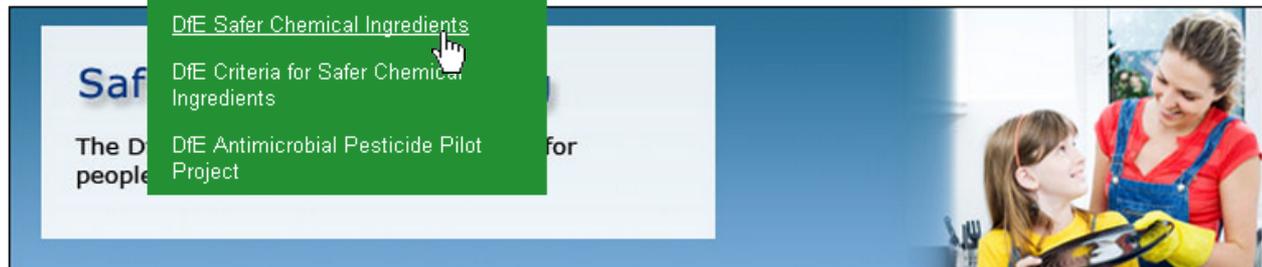
Which Products Have the DfE Label?

How to Partner, Get the DfE Label

[DfE Safer Chemical Ingredients](#)

DfE Criteria for Safer Chemical Ingredients

DfE Antimicrobial Pesticide Pilot Project



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Look for the label!

[For Consumers](#)

[For Product Manufacturers](#)

[For Industrial and Institutional Purchasers](#)

Top DfE Questions

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Where can I find a list of products with the DfE label?](#)
- [How do I apply to get the DfE label on my products?](#)

What's New with DfE?

September 19, 2012 - Through its DfE program, EPA has posted a [List of Safer Chemical Ingredients](#) for use in DfE-labeled products. [Read more about the list and accompanying changes to the DfE Standard \(PDF\)](#). Please send questions to [Bridget Williams](mailto:Bridget.Williams@epa.gov) (Williams.Bridget@epa.gov)

July 31, 2012 - Through its DfE program, EPA has released for comment the draft report "[Bisphenol A \(BPA\) Alternatives in Thermal Paper](#)" (PDF) (492pp, 6.1 MB, [About PDF](#)). [Read more about the BPA Alternatives in Thermal Paper Partnership](#). The draft report is available for comment until October 1, 2012. Please send comments to [Cal Baier-Anderson](mailto:Baier-Anderson.Caroline@epa.gov) (Baier-Anderson.Caroline@epa.gov).

July 30, 2012 - Through its DfE program, EPA has released for comment the draft report "[An Alternatives Assessment for the Flame-Retardant Decabromodiphenyl Ether \(DecaBDE\)](#)" (PDF) (812pp, 10.2 MB, [About PDF](#)). [Read the press release](#). [Read more about the Flame-Retardant](#)

DfE's Safer Chemical Ingredients List

Safer Chemical Ingredients for Use in DfE-Labeled Products

- The listed chemicals are safer alternatives, grouped by their [functional-use class](#).[†]
- Chemicals are marked as a green circle , a green half-circle , or a yellow triangle .*
- This list includes many of the chemicals evaluated through the DfE Safer Product Labeling Program. It does not include confidential chemicals and does not yet include fragrance chemicals. There may be chemicals not included in this list that are also safer.

Chelating Agents

Colorants

Defoamers

Enzymes and Enzyme Stabilizers

Fragrances

Oxidants and Oxidant Stabilizers

Polymers

Preservatives and Antioxidants

Processing Aids and Additives

Solvents

Specialized Industrial Chemicals

Surfactants

Uncategorized

Safer Chemical Ingredients for Use in DfE-Labeled Products

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Chelating Agents

Evaluated chemicals that meet [Criteria for Chelating and Sequestering Agents](#)

| Common Name  | CAS Registry Number  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  2-Butenedioic acid (2Z)-, ammonium salt (1:?), homopolymer, hydrolyzed, sodium salts | 181828-06-8 |
|  Alanine, N,N-bis(carboxymethyl)-, sodium salt (1:3) | 164462-16-2 |
|  Aspartic acid, N-(1,2-dicarboxyethyl)-, tetrasodium salt | 144538-83-0 |
|  Citric acid, anhydrous | 77-92-9 |
|  D-Gluconic acid | 526-95-4 |
|  Dipotassium hydrogen citrate | 3609-96-9 |
|  L-Lactic acid | 79-33-4 |
|  Monosodium D-glucoheptonate | 31138-65-5 |
|  Potassium citrate, anhydrous | 866-84-2 |
|  Potassium citrate, monohydrate | 6100-05-6 |
|  Sodium citrate, anhydrous | 68-04-2 |
|  Sodium citrate, dihydrate | 6132-04-3 |
|  Sodium gluconate | 527-07-1 |
|  Tetrasodium N,N-bis(carboxylatomethyl)-L-glutamate | 51981-21-6 |

Welcome to CleanGredients®

... an online database of cleaning product ingredient chemicals, providing verified information about the environmental and human health attributes of listed ingredients. CleanGredients is a project of GreenBlue®, a nonprofit that equips business with the science and resources to make products more sustainable. CleanGredients:

- helps formulators to identify better ingredients
- helps suppliers to showcase better ingredients

[read more](#)

News and Announcements

Changes to the DfE Safer Product Labeling Standard and the List of Safer Chemicals Ingredients. Through its DfE program, EPA has posted a List of Safer Chemical Ingredients for use in DfE-labeled products. Read more about the list and accompanying changes to the DfE Standard (PDF). <http://www.epa.gov/dfel/index.htm> Please send questions to Bridget Williams (Williams.Bridget@epa.gov)

Got a question about CleanGredients? You can find answers to many common questions on the CleanGredients [FAQ page](#).

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Avoiding regrettable substitution





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Gregory Howard, DSc, MPH

AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow

US EPA Design for the Environment

howard.gregory@epa.gov



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