



## Extension Notes

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Family & Consumer Sciences/ 4-H Youth Development

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Source:

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Spring cleaning is a long-time ritual. In the past, common winter heat sources caused soot and grime to collect in homes and on home furnishings. After winter subsided, spring was a time to open the windows and remove the dirt and

sooty buildup. While many of us have cleaner heat sources for our homes today, spring cleaning is still a ritual many of us practice.

While spring cleaning your house may seem like a monumental task, it does not have to be. Here are some tips and tricks for making spring cleaning more effective and less daunting.

• **Develop a plan of attack.** Think about where, when, and how you are going to clean and what cleaning products you will need. You may want to dedicate an entire

# TIPS for tackling Spring Cleaning

weekend to cleaning or you may want to space it out an hour or two at a time over several days. You may want to tackle one room at a time or one project, such as washing all your curtains, at once. There is no wrong answer. It depends on your cleaning style.

• **Gather your supplies beforehand.** Go through your cabinets to determine the products you already have on hand and those you need to purchase. Common cleaning items you may need include an all-purpose cleaner, abrasive cleanser, non-abrasive cleanser, chlorine bleach, glass cleaner, furniture/

dusting cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, cloths, trash bags, and vacuum bags.

• **Declutter before cleaning.** We all tend to accumulate things and having things on furniture and on the floor can make it harder to clean. If you have unwanted items, now is a good time to sell, recycle, or donate them.

• **Ask for help if you need it from family members and friends.** You do not have to tackle cleaning by yourself.

• **Take the cleaning momentum**

See TIPS, PG 8

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