Safety Alert

Safety concerns for mixing homemade disinfectants

Due to the current Covid 19 virus outbreak, the NYS Office of Fire Prevention and Control would like to remind people that mixing various household chemicals together is not a recommended practice. With the shortage of cleaning supplies and individuals looking to protect themselves may think mixing various products will produce a disinfectant. Many of these combinations can produce toxic gases and even be fatal even in small mixtures. Whenever you are using a cleaning product the manufactures recommended procedures should be followed. A list of common household cleaner combinations and their reactions are shown below.

**BLEACH AND VINEGAR**
Bleach and vinegar mixture produces chlorine gas, which can cause coughing, breathing problems, burning and watery eyes.

**BLEACH AND AMMONIA**
Bleach and ammonia produce a toxic gas called chloramine. It causes shortness of breath and chest pain.

**BLEACH AND RUBBING ALCOHOL**
Bleach and rubbing alcohol makes chloroform which is highly toxic.

**HYDROGEN PEROXIDE AND VINEGAR**
This combination makes peracetic/peroxyacetic acid, which can be highly corrosive.