

Tremblay Discusses Green Earth Home Cleaning

Daniel, why did you start Green Earth Home Cleaning?

My wife Julianna had a small housekeeping company (about 60 homes), and she was cleaning with traditional cleaning chemicals. Her health was not so good: she had issues with her lungs and her skin. I had to conclude that it was directly related to the chemicals, because when we switched to nontoxic cleaning products last January, her health problems slowly disappeared. So, last March, we officially created a brand new company, adopted a different philosophy, and went "green" all the way.

You reference the importance of non-toxic products. How do you select your products, and do they do as good a job as more traditional cleaning products?

We underwent extensive trials of many "green" non-toxic products: well-known major players like Seventh generations or Shaklee and less-known, smaller companies, and we also created some homemade products as well.

After six months of tryouts, we selected a few product lines that worked the best in all areas of a typical household.

Ten years ago, green products were behind in efficiency compared to the "evil" chemicals, but today, green products are at least equal and often superior to household toxic products that unfortunately too many people still use.

You are quite passionate about global warming. What sparked your interest, and how do you maintain a positive attitude in light of the fact that some Americans dismiss global warming as theoretical?

As a born-and-raised Canadian, I think I was always interested in the environment. I became especially hooked these past five years as the vast majority of scientists agree that global warming is real, that it's already happening, and that it is the result of our activities and not a natural occurrence. Since the evidence was overwhelming and undeniable, you bet that what's sparked my interest. Keeping a positive outlook is

the only way any changes can take place especially on that issue.

Americans (I am one since last July) are smart and will make appropriate changes in their lifestyle when they believe the information that is released to them is true and correct. We can't have scientists on one side saying humans are the cause of this current global warming and governments saying otherwise on the other side.



Daniel and Julianna Tremblay

Did you see the movie An Inconvenient Truth? What were your impressions?

Yes, I did. I believe this movie is a great eye- and mind-opener and that it should encourage people to do their own research on the topic. We Americans have to leave our politics aside before watching this documentary. I do not believe Mr. Gore has spent the past few years on the road in front of small and larger crowds all around the globe repeating the same facts day after day for political gain. (I heard he did that presentation over a thousand times!) Our planet does not care what party we belong to; it just wants our help, fast.

Have you always been an environmentalist?

If I go by the web definition of environmentalist, a person who places high values on the environment or someone who works to protect the environment from destruction or pollution, I would say that I have always been at heart an environmentalist, someone who cares about the planet. I do

believe that most people care as well. I think the problem is that we are not aware of how destructive and damaging certain of our behaviors are to the earth because we lack the correct information about the consequences of our everyday actions and ways of living.

A lot of people are coming to understand the problem with toxins in our homes.

What can you share about this problem?

Well, that is a different animal... and a big one as well. On average, people spend about 90 percent of their time indoors. Sixty-five percent of that is spent at home. What's worse is those who are most susceptible to indoor air pollution are the ones who are at home the most: children, pregnant women, the elderly, and those with chronic illnesses. Children breathe in 50 percent more air per pound of body weight than adults do.

EPA studies have found that pollutant levels inside can be two to five times higher than outdoors. After some activities, indoor air pollution levels can

be 100 times higher than outdoors, so it is important to identify the main causes of indoor pollution. Anyone could do some quick research to find out easy ways to reduce the amount of indoor pollutant in their homes.

Here is a list of five main causes of indoor air pollution:

1. The chemicals we use to clean and maintain our homes and ourselves
2. The materials we use to build and furnish our homes
3. Modern construction techniques (such as homes build to be better insulated and therefore tightly sealed)
4. Household combustion equipment (like furnaces, hot water heaters and gas stoves)
5. Polluted outdoor air that goes indoor (particularly true in urban homes which are near automobile traffic)

For more information, please visit www.greenearthhomecleaning.com or view the display ad on page 9.