

*Note from Cathy: Some of you may live in an area where the shipping costs are too high for getting Wondercide's products for natural flea, tick and mosquito control, so I found this information on a blog from a person who is a rep for Young Living Essential Oils. These oils are available most places, but as long as you're using high-quality, pure essential oils from a reputable source, they would likely work the same. In the essential oils world, Young Living is at the top, DoTerra a fairly close second, and others follow. He describes mostly flea treatments and repellants, but if you incorporate cedar oil into the recipes, you're also repelling mosquitos and shouldn't have to worry about heartworms.*

## Homemade Flea Treatment Goes Flea Free with Essential Oils

Homemade flea treatment is simple with essential oils. So, if you are looking for home remedies for fleas, you have come to the right place!

### Why Should I use Essential Oils for Homemade Flea Treatment?

Most monthly flea products contain pesticides, organophosphates and a whole other slew of toxic ingredients linked with **thousands of pet deaths and diseases**.

Did you know in November 2000 the Nation Resource Defense Council (NRDC) Recommended that **EPA ban use of Orthophosphates** in Pet Products?

Yes, the report stressed that the pesticides in flea and tick control products needed to be eliminated because they were **killing our pets and posing a risk to the user**.

This report was released in 2010, after the EPA in April 2009 reported that they were intensifying their evaluation of **restrictions of products (flea and tick) to better protect pets**.

Here is a direct excerpt taken from the Executive Summary.

"But they can also poison pets and the people who handle them. Moreover, when these products are combined in the home, as they often are, with other toxic chemical products in common use -- pesticides, herbicides, and other products -- they can pose a **serious health risk**, especially to children."

Honestly, the report just clarifies what many of us have been saying for years about the toxins in our home, pet and personal care products.

I know, I was in the hazardous waste business for thirteen years and saw what was poisoning us and our environment. So, personally I try to **avoid using chemical based products**; and my animals (and I) are **healthier** for it.

### Why are Essential Oils Effective as Home Flea Remedies?

[Therapeutic grade](#) essential oils are very efficient at repelling fleas because **pests and insects do not like the smell of the oils**. However, I will be honest. They will not be enormously effective if used once per month like your monthly pesticide flea treatment.

But I do believe that the **payback of using essential oils is greater** than the alternative outlined above. Plus your pets (and you) get all the [benefits](#) of using essential oils too!

At first, you may need to use homemade flea treatment with oils **more frequently** and this will also depend on the general health of your pet, where you live, how big your pet is and what your pet does during the day.

My dog goes to the barn most days where she meets four to six other dogs daily; and I think she digs holes in the sand to purposely find sand fleas (and to stay cool). So, she is constantly bombarded by fleas, flies and even ticks!

She also eats a **natural raw diet** and I have found that the number of fleas drastically reduced when I started feeding her a natural raw diet.

So, by a little bit of experimentation you will find the best oils to use for a homemade flea treatment.

### **What Essential Oils do I use for Homemade Flea Treatment?**

These are the oils that you can use as a natural flea repellent. Just click on the oil and it will tell you more information.

- [Eucalyptus radiata Essential Oil](#)
- [Tea Tree or Melaleuca alternifolia Essential Oil](#)
- [Lemongrass Essential Oil](#)
- [Pine Essential Oil](#)
- [Cedarwood Essential Oil](#)
- [Peppermint Essential Oil](#)
- [Lemon Essential Oil](#)
- [Lavender Essential Oil](#)
- [Orange Essential Oil](#)
- [Melrose Essential Oil](#)
- [Purification Essential Oil](#)
- [Palo Santo Essential Oil](#)

- Citronella Essential Oil

As you can see, there are quite a few oils you can use as a homemade flea treatment! Like all things, you will have to **experiment with several oils** to see what works best for your animal.

Personally I like to start with Purification blend because it contains Citronella, Lemongrass, Melaleuca and Lavandin. Then I add a drop of Cedarwood, Eucalyptus or Pine.

The Native Americans were the **first to use Pine** as a flea repellent. They stuffed pine needles in their mattresses to repel fleas and lice!

**Note about Cats:** Certain oils can be very toxic to [cats](#). Citrus products and pine oils in particular. According to Valerie Ann Wormwood, [lavender](#) and/or [Cedarwood](#) can be used for fleas on cats. Please see the section [oils for cats](#) for further information.

### **Can I make a Homemade Flea Spray?**

Absolutely, here is an essential oil recipe you can use as for homemade flea treatment.

#### **Purification Flea Free Recipe**

- 1/2 cup of Distilled water
- 6-8 Drops Purification Essential Oil
- 2-4 Drops Palo Santo Essential Oil
- 1 Drop of [Thieves Hand Soap](#) or Castile Soap (emollient)

Place in a spray bottle and shake. Spritz daily to stay flea free!

Thank you to Hollie Mailhiot for providing this recipe. It works great!

### **Is there a Natural Flea Shampoo made with Essential Oils?**

Yes, there is. I use [Animal Scents Pet Shampoo](#). It is a natural shampoo that contains five therapeutic grade essential oils. It is very gentle shampoo and is highly concentrated. It also acts as a tick repellent for dogs and smells great! I like to add a drop or two of lemongrass to enhance my shampoo and adapt it for even more flea repelling!

### **Can I use the Same Oils for Ticks?**

There is some overlap between the oils, but you may have to apply separate blends or oils for [ticks](#). Most people apply one in the morning and the other in the afternoon if you need to apply for both.

Here in Florida, even though we do get ticks, we don't have as big a problem as elsewhere in the country, so I don't have to do a specific tick treatment. See the section on ticks for more information.

## **Essential Oil Flea Tips**

Add essential oils to your pets wash, especially their blankets. Use Thieves and Purification.

Add 4 drops of Cedarwood, pine, lavender or combination of oils to a bowl of warm water with a drop of thieves or castile soap. Dip your brush in the water and brush into your dog's coat. Rinse the brush out several times in between to clean the brush.

Add a drop or two of oil directly to their collar. Valerie Anne Worwood suggests this recipe for soft material collars.

### **Soak the collar in a mixture of:**

- 1/2 teaspoon Alcohol
- 1 Drop Cedarwood Essential Oil
- 1 Drop Lavender Essential Oil
- 1 Drop Citronella Essential Oil
- 1 Drop Thyme Essential Oil
- 4 garlic capsules

And then once it is dry you can place it on your animal's neck! Use one per month depending on the area where you live in.