

# A new page on Toxic-Free Future's website is replete with misinformation about PVC material. We're correcting it here to make sure the public has the facts.

## THEY DIDN'T GET THE MEMO:

After years of study the U.S. FDA on May 19, 2022 denied a petition to de-authorize the use of ortho-phthalates in food contact applications (such as PVC food packaging). The FDA concluded exposures fell within long-established safety levels.

**FACTS:** 1) Vinyl chloride ambient emissions declined by more than 86% per pound since 1987  
2) Over 1 billion pounds of PVC material is recycled annually  
3) PVC accounts for just 0.57% of all waste sent to municipal landfills.

**GOOD LUCK.** Natural fibers aren't nearly as strong, durable or affordable as PVC.

**IT'S CALLED "GOOGLE":** U.S. toy manufacturers voluntarily de-selected ortho-phthalates years ago. Easily found online.



that exposure levels are already high enough that they may be harming male reproductive

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## How can I reduce my exposure?

- We can reduce exposures for everyone by winning policies and market actions to replace phthalates with safer substitutes. You can let your favorite retailers, brands, as well as policymakers know that you want them to ban ortho-phthalates and PVC and make sure substitutes are safer.
- **Avoid PVC/vinyl products and packaging.** PVC products contain problematic phthalates, but also create toxic threats in manufacturing and disposal.
  - Avoid PVC building materials like windows and doors. Opt for wood instead.
  - For food storage, use glass or stainless steel.
  - Choose natural fiber shower curtains rather than PVC.
  - Avoid PVC toys, school supplies, and office supplies.
  - Avoid luxury vinyl and other PVC flooring, wall coverings, and siding.

**MORE FACTS:** The vast majority of U.S. flooring manufacturers do not use phthalates.

**BASELESS.** Are they really saying these products should be avoided when the FDA concluded exposure to phthalates in PVC food packaging falls within safe levels? Apparently so ...

**PROBLEMATIC?** The FDA rejected an attempt to ban ortho-phthalates in May 2022 because the evidence didn't support it. (What's problematic is that groups like TFF refuse to accept this.)

**REALLY?** PVC requires fewer repairs and replacement than wood over its lifetime – and is more energy efficient.

**ONE MORE TIME:** The FDA found exposure to ortho-phthalates in PVC food packaging fell within safe levels and rejected a petition to ban them.