

(NAPSA)—Here's a breath of fresh air: Although more than 78 percent of Americans say such household odors as food, pet messes and mildew can be hard to eliminate, you can combat the problem without disrupting a normal cleaning routine. Here's how:

• Vanilla for burnt food—If the odor is from the microwave (e.g., popcorn gone awry), place a bowl of water with a tablespoon of vanilla in the microwave and boil the water. Let it sit there for an hour. If the whole room is affected, boil the vanilla mix on the stove.

• Dishwasher and microwave for sponges—To clean smelly sponges, put them in with a normal cycle of dishes with a dryer cycle. After they are done, wring out each sponge and place in the microwave for 30 seconds on high to kill lurking bacteria.

• Baking soda-packed vacuum accessories—Use the odoreliminating power of baking soda to quickly and easily remove most household smells. To help, ARM & HAMMER has a line of vacuum cleaner accessories with more than 100 styles made to fit nearly all brands and models of vacuums. These vacuum bags and filters eliminate odors caused by the



When it comes to eliminating odors, heeding a few hints can help you give your home the sweet smell of success.

mold, bacteria and fungi that can be produced by stinky foods, musty closets, diaper pails, garbage cans, carpets, upholstery and even pets. The resulting air, free of odors, is released back into the home.

• **Fresh-Ins for carpets**—You can freshen a room's carpet with just one small packet of ARM & HAMMER Pet Fresh Fresh-Ins added to the vacuum's bag or dust cup. The crystals inside eliminate odors, leaving a fresh, clean scent.

• Charcoal for bathrooms— Like baking soda, charcoal also has odor-eliminating capabilities. Instead of masking the odor, charcoal absorbs excess moisture and smells. Place charcoal into plastic containers and poke holes on the top. When cleaning the bathroom, tuck the containers into spots where they can't readily be seen.

ARM & HAMMER vacuum bags and filters, as well as Fresh-Ins, are sold exclusively at Wal-Mart stores and walmart.com. For more information, visit www.armhammervac.com.