



## Coalition for a Safe & Healthy Connecticut *Working Together to Protect Our Health*

### Keep the poison plastic off your back-to-school shopping list

Dear Environmental Health Nurses,

Worried about toxic chemicals in your children's products? This year, when you send your kids off to school, send them off with supplies that are free of PVC, the poison plastic. The Coalition for a Safe & Healthy Connecticut is teaming up with the Center for Health, Environment and Justice (CHEJ) to spread the word about their newly released 2nd annual [Back-to-School Guide to PVC-Free School Supplies](#) to help you make healthy shopping choices that are safer for your kids, your community and the environment.

[Get your copy right now](#). CHEJ also created a [handy wallet-sized version of the guide](#) (pdf) for your shopping needs on the go.

The guide lists the most common back-to-school supplies made out of toxic PVC plastic and suggests safer PVC-free alternatives in over 20 product categories.

#### Why Shop for PVC-Free School Supplies?

Many children's school supplies, such as lunchboxes, backpacks and binders, are often made out of PVC—a toxic plastic that is dangerous to our health and the environment. PVC is unique among plastics because it contains dangerous chemical additives. These harmful chemicals include phthalates, lead, cadmium, and/or organotins, which can be toxic to your child's health. What's worse is the danger these chemicals pose - phthalates and other toxic additives can leach out or evaporate into the air over time posing unnecessary dangers to children. Over 90% of all phthalates are used to soften or plasticize PVC products - that's over 5 million tons a year!

Children are at risk from even small exposures to these toxic chemicals. That's why it's important to purchase PVC-free school supplies.

[Get the new Back-to-School Guide to PVC-Free School Supplies and make sure that your back-to-school shopping is free of the poison plastic.](#)

And while you're at it, be sure to check out [the wallet-sized version of the guide](#). (pdf)

For a toxic-free future,

Sarah Uhl

Coalition for a Safe & Healthy Connecticut

PS - Can you forward this to parents you know?< /SPAN>





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