The two hazardous and toxic materials I chose were Ajax and Antifreeze. The reason why I chose these two topics to discuss were because I’ve grown up with them my entire life. For instance: when I was growing up, I always wanted a portable basketball goal to play basketball. In Oklahoma, the weather gets cold in winter. Temperatures can drop below freezing because of wind chills and such. So, to combat the plastic base from cracking, you add antifreeze to make the plastic bottom last longer. Although antifreeze works great with cars and portable basketball goals, if its not contained, managed or stored properly, it can have damaging effects on plants, animals, and our environment. An estimated 10,000 cats and dogs are accidentally poisoned by antifreeze annually through ingestion. Antifreeze spills on lawns will kill the grass if not cleaned up immediately. (<https://sciencing.com/info-8573984-effects-antifreeze-environment.html>).

Another product I chose was Ajax. As a child, I grew up with this product for household cleanings. My grandmother and other relatives used this product on a regular basis. The problem with Ajax and other household products is that they are underregulated and companies aren’t required to include ingredient lists for cleaning products, like they are for food, drugs and personal care products. Ajax and other well known household products contain carcinogens such as formaldehyde that can ultimately affect someone’s allergies and even asthma (<http://www.organicauthority.com/sanctuary/10-household-cleaners-to-avoid-at-all-costs.html>).

I have also grown up to organic alternatives when it comes to cleaning. Instead of Windex, vinegar and water makes a great cleaner for glass and other household products. It stinks to high heaven, but it does have its cleaning purposes. Another organic cleaning product that can be used instead of hazardous and toxic chemicals is citrus acid. Most organic cleaners contain citrus acid because the chemical and break down protein strains in organisms. In fact, Ceviche is a culinary dish that cooks seafood in citrus acid and is quite delicious. I have made the dish in both culinary school and throughout the restaurants that I have worked in over the years.

In conclusion, there are many different organic alternatives when it comes to changing from hazardous and toxic materials to naturally organic materials for our outdoor and household products. We can all start to save the environment if we change our thinking on how to save the world one step at a time.