We Claim:

1. A solid article comprising a solid carrier component; and a volatile antimicrobial composition incorporated therewith, said antimicrobial composition comprising propanoic acid; and a component selected from isobutyl isobutyrate, benzaldehyde and combinations thereof, providing said composition is absent naphthalene and azulene derivative compounds.

2. The article of claim 1 wherein said carrier component comprises a clay.

3. The article of claim 2 wherein said clay comprises a bentonite clay.

4. A solid article comprising a solid carrier component; and a volatile antimicrobial composition incorporated therewith, said antimicrobial composition comprising propanoic acid and an acid ester selected from isoamyl acetate, isobutyl isobutyrate and a combination thereof, providing said composition is absent naphthalene and azulene derivative compounds.

5. The article of claim 4 wherein said antimicrobial composition consists of propanoic acid and isobutyl isobutyrate.

6. The article of claim 4 wherein said antimicrobial composition consists of propanoic acid, isoamyl acetate and benzaldehyde.

7. The article of claim 4 wherein said carrier component comprises a clay.

8. The article of claim 7 wherein said clay is a bentonite clay.

9. The article of claim 8 wherein said antimicrobial composition is selected from the compositions of claims 5 and 6, and a combination of said compositions.

10. A solid article comprising a solid carrier component comprising a bentonite clay; and an antimicrobial composition incorporated therewith, said antimicrobial composition selected from a composition consisting essentially of propanoic acid and isobutyl isobutyrate, or a composition consisting essentially of propanoic acid, isoamyl acetate and benzaldehyde, providing said composition is absent naphthalene and azulene derivative compounds.

11. A solid article comprising granules of a solid carrier component; and an antimicrobial composition incorporated therewith, said antimicrobial composition selected from a composition consisting essentially of propanoic acid and isobutyl isobutyrate, and a composition consisting essentially of propanoic acid, isoamyl acetate and benzaldehyde, providing said composition is absent naphthalene and azulene derivative compounds, said granules in a vapor-permeable enclosure.

12. The article of claim 11 wherein said carrier component is a bentonite clay.

13. The article of claim 12 wherein said antimicrobial composition is about 1.0 wt. % to about 3.0 wt. % of said article.

14. The article of claim 12 in a flexible bag comprising a mesh material.

15. The article of claim 14 in a container with a perishable food item.

16. A composition comprising propanoic acid; and a component selected from isoamyl acetate, isobutyl isobutyrate, benzaldehyde and combinations thereof, providing said composition is absent naphthalene and azulene derivative compounds.

17. The composition of claim 16 comprising isoamyl acetate and benzaldehyde.

18. A solid article comprising granules of a solid carrier component; and a volatile antimicrobial composition incorporated therewith, said antimicrobial composition comprising propanoic acid; and a component selected from isobutyl isobutyrate, benzaldehyde and combinations thereof, providing said composition is absent naphthalene and azulene derivative compounds.

19. The article of claim 18 wherein said carrier component comprises a clay.

20. The article of claim 19 wherein said clay comprises a bentonite clay.