

Green Cleaning: Benefits, Solutions & Strategies

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Webinar Moderator



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A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR...



Why talk about *Green* Cleaning?

- Nearly 80,000 different chemicals are used in conventional cleaning products
- Institutional cleaning uses some 6 billion pounds of formulated chemicals a year
- A janitor uses on average 23 gallons of chemicals each year, 25% of which are hazardous
- The level of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are as much as 32 times the acceptable level within 2 hours after cleaning
- Nearly 12% of work-related asthma is from cleaning products
- These chemicals either go down the drain or in our bodies

What is Cleaning?

- Removing “dirt and grime”
 - Visible
 - “Hidden”
- Leaving the area as “germ”-free as needed
 - 100% - sterilizing
 - 99.99% - disinfecting
 - 99% - sanitizing
 - ?? - clean enough

What is *Green* Cleaning?

- Selecting products and establishing protocols that reduce or eliminate the hazardous effects of housecleaning to ensure a clean and healthy environment both inside and outside the facility.
 - Replace harsh cleaning products with cleaners that have simple, natural ingredients
 - Review current protocols and update as needed to incorporate both environmentally responsible and people-friendly processes

Benefits of *Green* Cleaning

- Environmentally responsible
- Shows commitment to the health and well-being of employees
- Could reduce the cost of doing business
- Improves the image of the company/business especially restaurants, hotels/motels
- Are eligible for “credit”
 - LEED EBOM
 - Green Seal
 - ISSA

LEED EBOM Certification

- LEED EBOM certification:

<http://www.usgbc.org/ShowFile.aspx?DocumentID=7245>

- Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) Prerequisite 3
- “Green Cleaning Policy” is required
- Up to 6 of the 40 credits are related to cleaning
- Additional “Innovation in Operations” credits are available for addressing issues such as:
 - Hand hygiene
 - Handling and safe storage of chemicals
 - Staffing and training maintenance personnel



Green Seal

- GS-42 – “Green Seal Environmental Standard for Cleaning Services”

http://www.greenseal.org/certification/standards/GS-42_Commercial_Cleaning_Services.pdf

- GS-37 – “Green Seal Environmental Standard for General-Purpose, Bathroom, Glass, and Carpet Cleaners Used for Industrial and Institutional Purposes”

http://www.greenseal.org/certification/standards/GS-37_Industrial_Cleaner_Standard.pdf



ISSA

- CIMS-GB – “Cleaning Industry Management Standard’s Green Building”

http://www.issa.com/data/File/CIMS/CIMS-GB%20FINAL%2010_13_09.pdf

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The Experts
on Cleaning and Maintenance

Approach to *Green* Cleaning

- Examine current processes including products used
- Identify areas for improvement
- Develop a plan including specific procedures for implementation and evaluation measures
- Implement the plan
- Measure outcomes including:
 - Cleanliness of facility
 - Employee health and well-being
 - Return on investment (ROI)
 - Institution's community image



Implementing *Green* Cleaning Plan

- Adopt a policy
- Establish a committee
- Evaluate current products and practices
- Design a pilot project
- Educate building occupants and custodial staff
- Phase in “green” products
- Watch for new opportunities to make green purchases
- Reward the staff for participating

Question:

- Research has found that a cleaner indoor environment can increase worker productivity by how many minutes per 8 hour work day?
 - A. 3 minutes
 - B. 5 minutes
 - C. 10 minutes
 - D. 20 minutes
 - E. 30 minutes



Where to Look for *Green* Cleaners

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
 - “Environmentally Preferable Purchasing”
<http://epa.gov/epp/pubs/products/cleaning.htm>
 - Environmental Attributes of a product
 - Procurement Guidelines
 - List of Cleaning Tools
 - Case Studies
 - Government and Non-government Web Sites including the “Database of Environmental Information for Products and Services”

Where to Look for *Green* Cleaners

- United States Department of Agriculture
 - BioPreferred Catalog

<http://www.catalog.biopREFERRED.gov/bioPreferredCatalog/faces/jsp>

- Product
- Company
- Green Cleaning
- Biobased Content
- BEES (Building for Environmental and Economic Sustainability)
- Industry Standard
- Glossary

Where to Look for *Green* Cleaners

- Consumer Reports

- Eco-labels Center

- <http://www.greenerchoices.org/eco-labels/eco-home.cfm>

- Label Report Card

Where to Look for *Green* Cleaners

- National Institutes of Health (NIH)
 - Household Products Database
 - <http://householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov>
 - Product
 - Manufacturers
 - Ingredients
 - Health Effects

Using Cleaning Solutions

- Read Labels carefully for
 - Appropriate surfaces that can be cleaned without harm
 - Health hazards (ammonia can trigger an asthma attack)
 - Precautions
 - Protect exposed skin (gloves)
 - Protect eyes, other mucus membranes-nasal, oral (masks, respirators)
 - Ventilate the area - “move” air away from the user
 - Correct use
 - Use “as is”
 - Dilute accurately as indicated
 - Rinse or not

Special Cleaning Areas

■ Kitchen

- Carefully handle fresh produce and raw meats and poultry

<http://www.dhss.mo.gov/FoodCode/>

- Color-coded wipers for specific cleaning tasks prevent cross-contamination versus cloth wipers



Special Cleaning Areas

- Hotel Mattresses
 - Keep alert for the developing “pest threat”
<http://bedbugregistry.com/>



The Bedbug Registry

look up + report alerts city maps store about

The Bedbug Registry bedbugregistry.com is a free, public database of bedbug infestations. Use it to check for bedbug reports before booking a hotel room or renting an apartment.

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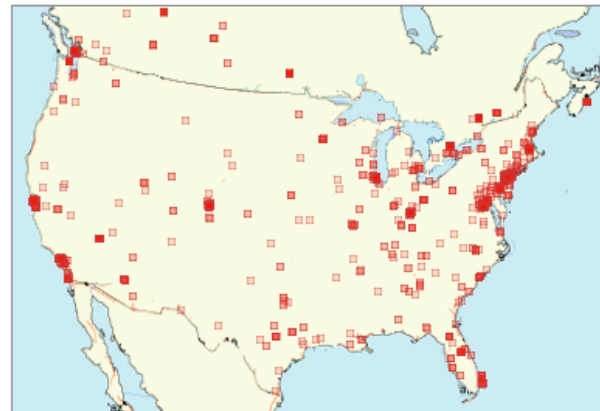
Check For / Report Bugs:

Hotel name:

City and state

Street Address

City and State



click on any region to see an interactive map of infestations

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Products for control + Information. Fast affordable shipping too.



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Training Employees on *Green* Cleaning Protocol

- ISSA CIMS Document
 - 6.2.2.4 Green High-Performance Cleaning Program – Green Cleaning Training
 - “... a written curriculum for green cleaning training cleaning personnel and documentation that the personnel have been trained.”
- Green Buildings GS-37
 - 4.14 Product-Specific Health & Environmental Requirements – Training
 - Provided by the product manufacturer, its distributor, or a third party
 - “... step-by-step instructions for the proper dilution, use, disposal, and the use of equipment.”

Beyond Chemicals

- A green cleaning program should also include:
 - 100% recycled, process-chlorine free paper products containing post-consumer recycled content
 - Single-use and hands-free paper towel and napkin dispensers to minimize cross-contamination
 - Dispensing systems that control consumption to reduce waste and cost
 - Hand soaps for washrooms should be without antibacterial agents



Tracking the Effectiveness of *Green* Cleaning Protocols

- Conduct an audit
 - Develop a checklist
 - Number of green cleaners used
 - Number of training workshops held and number of participants
 - Amount of paper products saved by switching to recycled paper
 - Amount of toxic chemicals avoided
- <http://www.healthyschoolscampaign.org/programs/gcs/guide2/3-5-evaluate.htm>
- “The U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED for Existing Buildings recommends the use of APPA Leadership in Educational Facilities Custodial Staffing Guidelines for Educational Facilities for an overall measure of the effectiveness of a cleaning program.”

A Suggestion...

- Prepare for the Flu Season –

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/business/>



- Please visit the TGHC website at www.torkgreenhygienecouncil.com and click on the “Environmental Resource” tab to download this presentation and access the links.
- Also be sure to “like” and “follow” our TGHC [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) handles to gain valuable insights and time-relevant information from the council members.



In closing...

Clean **GREEN!!!**



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