

GREEN CLEANING STATEMENT
Regional School District #4

The State of Connecticut Public Act 09-81 requires that each local and regional board of education implement a green cleaning program for all school buildings and facilities in its district.

The Regional School District#4 Green Cleaning Program is designed to optimize conditions for learning and minimize human exposure to hazardous chemicals, allergens irritants, and pollutants.

Regional School District #4 is committed to the implementation of Public Act 09-81 by providing the staff and, upon request, the parents and guardians of each child enrolled in each school with a written statement of the school district's green cleaning program as well as making it available on its web site annually. Copies will also be distributed to new staff hired during the school year and to parents or guardians of students transferring in during the school year.

1. Green cleaning program means the procurement and proper use of environmentally preferable cleaning products as defined by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) for all state owned buildings, schools and facilities. DAS currently requires that environmentally preferable cleaning products be independently certified by one of two third party certified organizations: ***Green Seal or Eco Logo***
2. By July 1, 2011 and thereafter no person shall use a cleaning product in a public school unless it meets the DAS standard.
3. The types of cleaning products covered in this legislation include: general purpose, bathroom, and glass cleaners, floor strippers and finishes, hand cleaners and soaps. The preferred green cleaning products used by this school district are listed on attachment "A"
4. Disinfectants, disinfectant cleaners, sanitizers or antimicrobial products regulated by the federal insecticide, fungicide and rodenticide act are not covered by this law.

The following statement will be part of this school districts program as stated in the new law;

"NO PARENT, GUARDIAN, TEACHER OR STAFF MEMBER MAY BRING INTO THE SCHOOL FACILITY ANY CONSUMER PRODUCT WHICH IS INTENDED TO CLEAN, DEODORIZE, SANITIZE OR DISINFECT"

The implementation of this program requires the support and cooperation of everyone including administrators, faculty, staff, parents, guardians and facilities staff.

Any questions concerning the program can be directed to:

Bruce Glowac
Regional School District #4 Director of Facilities
Phone 860-526-3631
bglowac@reg4.k12.ct.us

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #4

**ATTACHMENT "A"
GREEN PRODUCT LISTING**

This chart lists the types, names and manufacturers of the green products used by Regional School District #4 Schools as well as the locations/areas of application and the schedule of when each is used.

TYPE OF PRODUCT	NAME	MANUFACTURER	LOCATON / AREA	FREQUENCY SCHEDULE
Floor Finish	Aspire	NCL-Earth Sense	Linoleum & VCT, classrooms, halls & café.	As needed
Floor Finish	Prelude	Betco Corporation	Linoleum & VCT, classrooms, halls & café.	As needed
General Purpose	Earth Sense #18	NCL-Earth Sense	Hard surfaces & CTP* classrooms, Café, Lavs, office...	Daily
General Purpose Neutral Cleaner	Earth Sense #16	NCL-Earth Sense	Hard floors, Lavs, classrooms & café.	3X week or as needed
All Purpose	All purpose #1	Simple Green	All rooms	Daily
Restroom Cleaner	Kaiblooy	Kai-Vac	Lav's	Monthly
Foam Hand Soap	Symmetry	Buckeye	General Hand cleaning, throughout bldgs.	Daily
Foam Hand Soap	Esterol	Stoko	General Hand cleaning, throughout bldg	Daily
Glass cleaner	Earth Sense #19	NCL-Earth Sense	Glass Cleaning	Daily

* CTP = Common Touch Points

Evaluation of currently used as well as New Green seal independently certified products will be ongoing.



GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Connecticut Department of Public Health
Environmental & Occupational Health Assessment Program
410 Capitol Avenue, MS # 11EOH, PO Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308
Telephone: (860) 509-7740 Fax: (860) 509-7785
<http://www.ct.gov/dph/>

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Green Cleaning Information for School Administrators, Staff and Parents

As concerns about chemicals in the environment grow, there is an effort to reduce the amount and type of chemicals people are exposed to every day. In light of this, a law was passed in 2009 by the CT legislature that requires schools to start a green cleaning program in the schools by July 2011. **School Districts need the cooperation of staff and parents to both comply with the law, and protect the health of students and staff.**

Public Act No. 09-81 (partial text)

AN ACT CONCERNING GREEN CLEANING PRODUCTS IN SCHOOLS.

On or before July 1, 2011, each local and regional board of education shall implement a green cleaning program for the cleaning and maintenance of school buildings and facilities in its district. No person shall use a cleaning product inside a school unless such cleaning product meets guidelines or environmental standards set by a national or international environmental certification program approved by the Department of Administrative Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Environmental Protection. Such cleaning product shall, to the maximum extent possible, minimize the potential harmful impact on human health and the environment.

On or before October 1, 2010, each local and regional board of education shall provide the staff of each school and, upon request, the parents and guardians of each child enrolled in each school with a written statement of the school district's green cleaning program. Each local or regional board of education shall make such notice, as well as the report submitted to the Department of Education pursuant to subsection (a) of section 10-220 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, available on its web site and the web site of each school under such board's jurisdiction.

No parent, guardian, teacher or staff member may bring into the school facility any consumer product which is intended to clean, deodorize, sanitize or disinfect.

This requirement means that the custodial staff will use cleaners that are less toxic. These green cleaners have been certified by an independent third-party (Green Seal: <http://greenseal.org> or Eco-Logo: <http://www.ecologo.org/en/index.asp>) to make sure that the health and environmental effects from their use are reduced.

This change will mean improved health for school occupants by reducing children's, teacher's, custodian's and other staff's exposure to toxic chemicals and asthma triggers that can be found in cleaning products. These include bleach, phenols, and ammonia often found in many over-the-counter general-purpose cleaners.

One important part of the law bans teachers and staff from bringing in their own cleaners, including sanitizers and disinfectants, or deodorizers, and parents (and parent groups) from sending in such products with their child/children. These products often have harmful ingredients that can cause health problems, especially for people with asthma and other respiratory problems. The best way to prevent germs from spreading is to use soap and water or, if unavailable, use the school approved hand sanitizer.

The facilities and custodial staff must be aware of all chemicals used in the schools. They have been trained to use the best cleaner for the situation/location. For example, they use disinfectants in the bathrooms, sanitizers in the kitchen and general purpose cleaners in the classroom. The nurse's office has a separate procedure. If there is a particular illness outbreak, then sanitizers and disinfectants may be used in areas that might be contaminated. Only the trained custodial and nursing staff should be handling disinfectants. It is recommended that the school provide teachers with small pump bottles (labeled with the product name and any health hazard) of the approved green cleaner to use in the classroom.

You should be able to find the following green cleaning information on your district's web site or by request:

- types and names of cleaning products that are better for the environment
- where such cleaning products are used in the school buildings and facilities
- schedule of when such cleaning products are used in the school buildings and facilities
- name of the school administrator, or a designee, for further information
- the statement prohibiting parents, guardians, teachers or staff member bringing in cleaners or disinfectants

Moving to a green cleaning system will require cooperation from all members of the school community. The result will be a healthier school environment.

For more information on green cleaning, visit the following web sites:

- Wastebusters Green Cleaning Myths Video:
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1MIcvoWGMo> (YouTube)
- <http://www.depdata.ct.gov/video/mainpsa.asp?url=http://www.ctvideo.ct.gov/deep/Waste/WastebustersGreenCleaning.wmv&name=Wastebusters%20Green%20Cleaning%20in%20Schools>
(CTDEEP)
- CT School Green Cleaning Products Law:
<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2009/ACT/Pa/pdf/2009PA-00081-R00HB-06496-PA.pdf>
- CT Department of Public Health: <http://www.ct.gov/dph/ieq>
- CT Department of Public Health "Healthy School Environments" web page: www.ct.gov/dph/schools
- INFORM Cleaning for Health: <http://informinc.org>
- CT Foundation for Environmentally Safe Schools: <http://www.pollutionfreeschools.org>
- Best Cleaning Practices Guidance for Infection Control:
http://www.ct.gov/ctfluwatch/lib/ctfluwatch/h1n1/72209/cleaning_schools.pdf