

Green Cleaning Policy and Program Plan

December 2019

SECTION 1: SCOPE

This Policy and Plan addresses environmental best practices for cleaning on the Storrs campus. Specifically, it addresses purchasing sustainable cleaning, hard-floor and carpet products, and entryway systems; procuring sustainable cleaning equipment; developing and implementing standard operating procedures for effective cleaning; promoting and improving hand hygiene; developing guidelines for handling cleaning chemicals; developing staffing and employee training requirements; collecting and addressing occupant feedback; and establishing procedures for use of chemical concentrates and dilution systems.

SECTION 2: GOALS

The goal of this Green Cleaning Policy and Plan is to reduce the exposure of building occupants and maintenance personnel to potentially hazardous chemical, biological and particle contaminants, which adversely impact air quality, health, building finishes, building systems and the environment.

SECTION 3: QUALITY ASSURANCE CONTROL PROCESS

The party responsible shall periodically evaluate the success of the Green Cleaning Policy and Plan. This evaluation may include producing and providing a report on an annual basis to senior management. Whenever possible, the annual report shall include an evaluation of the performance, safety, cost and environmental/public health benefits achieved as a result of its implementation.

Prior to implementation, the responsible party shall review all proposed cleaning activities. Upon reviewing proposed activities, the responsible party shall determine if they meet the criteria of the Green Cleaning Policy and approve or deny action.

The responsible party shall regularly communicate with all cleaning staff, and conduct regular site inspections and evaluations to ensure that the Green Cleaning Policy and Plan is in place and functioning as intended. In addition to ongoing quality control measures, James Albuquerque will review all practices and products (typically annually) to identify opportunities for improvement and expansion of environmentally friendly practices.

SECTION 4: CLEANING PRODUCTS

PERFORMANCE METRICS AND MEASUREMENT

The practices listed below shall be implemented, to the extent practicable, with a target goal of 80% of products complying, based on cost. The Responsible Party shall assign staff to track purchase rates of both compliant and noncompliant products.

PRACTICES TO OPTIMIZE USE OF SUSTAINABLE CLEANING PRODUCTS

Cleaning products and materials, including hard-floor and carpet-care products, used at the Storrs campus shall, when possible, meet the requirements of IEQc3.3: Green Cleaning, Purchase of Sustainable Cleaning Products and Materials.

Product types subject to these requirements include, but are not limited to, bio-enzymatic cleaners, hard-floor cleaners, carpet cleaners, general-purpose cleaners, specialty cleaners, odor control, disinfectants, disposable janitorial paper products and trash bags, and hand soaps.

IEQc3.3: Green Cleaning, Purchase of Sustainable Cleaning Products and Materials Criteria:

- The cleaning products meet one or more of the following standards for the appropriate category:
 - Green Seal GS-37, for general-purpose, bathroom, glass and carpet cleaner use for industrial and institutional purposes
 - Environmental Choice CCD-110, for cleaning and degreasing compounds
 - Environmental Choice CCD-146, for hard-surface cleaners
 - Environmental Choice CCD-148, for carpet and upholstery care.
- Disinfectants, metal polish, floor finishes, strippers or other products not addressed by GS-37 or Environmental Choice CCD-110, 146, or 148 shall meet at least one of the following standards for the appropriate category:
 - Green Seal GS-40, for industrial and institutional floor-care products
 - Environmental Choice CCD-112, for digestion additives for cleaning and odor control
 - Environmental Choice CCD-113, for drain or grease-trap additives
 - Environmental Choice CCD-115, for odor-control additives
 - Environmental Choice CCD-147, for hard-floor care
 - California Code of Regulations maximum allowable VOC levels for the specific product category.
- Disposable janitorial paper products and trash bags meet the minimum requirements of one or more of the following programs for the applicable product category:
 - U.S. EPA Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Janitorial Paper and Plastic Trash Can Liners
 - Green Seal GS-09, for paper towels and napkins
 - Green Seal GS-01, for tissue paper
 - Environmental Choice CCD-082, for toilet tissue
 - Environmental Choice CCD-086, for hand towels
 - Janitorial paper products derived from rapidly renewable resources or made from tree-free fibers.
- Hand soaps meet one or more of the following standards:
 - No antimicrobial agents (other than as a preservative) except where required by health codes and other regulations (i.e., food service and health care requirements)
 - Green Seal GS-41, for industrial and institutional hand cleaners
 - Environmental Choice CCD-104, for hand cleaners and hand soaps.

APPROVED PRODUCT LIST

The products listed below are approved for use. Products beyond those listed here must be submitted for approval prior to use.

Product Type	Manufacturer/Product Name	Sustainability Criteria Met
Glass Cleaner	Spartan BioRenewables Glass Cleaner 18	GS-37
All Purpose Cleaner	Spartan TriBase 17	GS-37
Floor Cleaner	Spartan Clean by Peroxy 15	GS-37
Restroom Surfaces	Spartan NABC Concentrate 1	
Floor Finish	Spartan Floor Front	GS-37
Finish Remover	Green Solutions Floor Finish Remover	GS-37
Floor Finish	Spartan iShine	GS-37
Cleaner	Spartan SparCreme	GS-37

SECTION 5: CLEANING EQUIPMENT

PERFORMANCE METRICS AND MEASUREMENT

All newly acquired cleaning equipment shall comply with the criteria listed below. The Responsible Party shall assign staff to track the percentage of all equipment that meets the criteria, based on cost or number of pieces of equipment, with a target of 20% of equipment comply by the end of the 24 month performance period.

PRACTICES TO OPTIMIZE USE OF SUSTAINABLE CLEANING EQUIPMENT

Purchase Criteria

All new equipment acquisitions shall comply with the requirements of IEQc3.4: Green Cleaning, Sustainable Cleaning Equipment or have approval from the University:

- Vacuum cleaners meet the requirements of the Carpet and Rug Institute “Green Label” Testing Program— Vacuum Cleaner Criteria and are capable of capturing 96% of particulates 0.3 microns in size and shall operate with a sound level less than 70dBA.
- Carpet extraction equipment for restorative, deep cleaning is certified by the Carpet and Rug Institute’s “Seal of Approval” Testing Program for deep-cleaning extractors.
- Powered floor equipment—e.g., electric and battery-powered floor buffers and burnishers—is equipped with vacuums, guards and/or other devices for capturing fine particulates, and operates with a sound level less than 70dBA.
- Automated scrubbing machines are equipped with variable-speed feed pumps and onboard chemical metering to optimize the use of cleaning fluids.
- Powered equipment is ergonomically designed to minimize vibration, noise and user fatigue.
- Equipment is designed with safeguards, such as rollers or rubber bumpers, to reduce potential damage to building surfaces.

Record-keeping

A log shall be kept for all powered cleaning equipment to document the date of purchase and all repair and maintenance activities. Vendor cut sheets for all equipment used onsite shall be stored onsite. When cleaning equipment replacement is necessary, acquisition dates and supporting documentation shall be retained to demonstrate that all newly acquired equipment complies with the specifications.

SECTION 6: HARD-FLOOR AND CARPET MAINTENANCE

PERFORMANCE METRICS AND MEASUREMENT

Floor-care maintenance shall consistently be performed according to written protocols, without exception. QC checks will be used to ensure 100% adoption.

PRACTICES TO OPTIMIZE HARD-FLOOR AND CARPET MAINTENANCE

- The floor and carpet maintenance program at the University of Connecticut is designed to use few, or no, harmful chemicals; remove and eliminate irritating dust, dirt and other contaminants; and protect and preserve floors.
- To minimize chemical use, the University of Connecticut has reduced the frequency of stripping or removing coatings to once each year and is able to maximize the floor’s longevity, thereby conserving cleaning and floor restoration materials and minimizing occupants’ exposure to harmful chemicals.
- A written floor maintenance plan and log shall be maintained, which details the number of coats of floor finish being applied as the base and other applications (top coat), along with all relevant maintenance/restoration practices and the dates and duration of these activities.
- VCT
 - VCT is dry mopped and spot washed daily.
 - High traffic areas, such as corridors and entryways are washed with floor machines once each week.
 - A Green Seal compliant neutral cleaner is used in the floor washing machine.

- Wood
 - Regular cleaning – use neutral cleaner. Dry mop, but based on activities, may have to machine wash – usually once per week.
 - Restorative cleaning. Screen disk – uses a wet process so that there is no dust. This procedure is utilized annually, or less frequently, depending on how often spaces are used.
- Carpet
 - Daily vacuuming.
 - Deep cleaning annually, or as needed depending on spills, using a GS-37 product.
- Linoleum
 - Dry mop and wash as needed with GS-37 neutral cleaner.
- Tile
 - In kitchens and bathrooms. Sweep and wet mop daily.
 - Machine scrub during shut down weeks using neutral cleaner.
- All cleaning takes place after school hours to minimize exposure of students to chemicals, to minimize slipping hazards.

SECTION 7: HAND HYGIENE

PERFORMANCE METRICS AND MEASUREMENT

Protocols promoting hand hygiene shall be wholly adopted. QC checks will be used to ensure 100% adoption.

PRACTICES TO OPTIMIZE HAND HYGIENE

- All restroom facilities, including those in guest rooms, public areas and back-of-house spaces shall include appropriate hand soaps. (See Section 4)

SECTION 8: HANDLING AND STORAGE OF CLEANING CHEMICALS

PERFORMANCE METRICS AND MEASUREMENT

Protocols governing safe handling and storage of cleaning chemicals shall be wholly adopted. QC checks will be used to ensure 100% adoption.

PRACTICES TO OPTIMIZE HANDLING AND STORAGE OF CLEANING CHEMICALS

The following protocols have been established to mitigate spills, leaks and mismanagement.

Storage

- Cleaning chemicals are stored in a locked janitorial closet. Workers access chemicals as needed as needed from the closets closet.

Chemical Dilution systems

(See Section 9)

SDS Storage

- The cleaning chemical supplier is required to provide accurate SDSs for all chemicals delivered to the building.
- SDSs are filed, in duplicate, in the chemical storage room and the manager's office in clearly labeled binders.
- The cleaning chemical supplier maintains a toll-free hotline that can be called in the event of spills or accidents to access safety data and protocols.

Emergency Procedures

Follow SDS Instructions

SECTION 9: USE OF CHEMICAL CONCENTRATES AND DILUTION SYSTEMS

PERFORMANCE METRICS AND MEASUREMENT

Dilution systems and chemical concentrates shall be wholly utilized for the following product types:

Glass Cleaner	Spartan BioRenewables Glass Cleaner 18
Floor Cleaner	Spartan TriBase 17
All Purpose Cleaner	Spartan Clean by Peroxy 15
Restroom Surfaces	Spartan NABC Concentrate 1

PRACTICES TO OPTIMIZE USE OF CHEMICAL CONCENTRATES AND DILUTION SYSTEMS

Chemical concentrates and dilution systems are used according to the procedures below to minimize risk to staff and occupants, and to conserve resources.

Dilution System Description

The dilution system is a wall-mounted unit, manufactured by Spartan. The chemical bottles snap in place and the system automatically mixes water with the concentrate to produce an accurately calibrated solution. The dilution tips are inside each bottle, making the system tamper proof. The dispenser units are mounted in each locked janitorial closet on each floor.

Protocol for Use

Staff is trained by the Spartan personnel, Inc. on the proper use of the dilution system.

Maintenance

UCONN maintains the equipment upon request of any staff or manager.

SECTION 10: STAFFING AND TRAINING

PERFORMANCE METRICS AND MEASUREMENT

All cleaning personnel shall receive regular training. Vendors shall supply evidence of compliance with training requirements prior to contract award or renewal.

PRACTICES TO OPTIMIZE STAFFING AND TRAINING

All cleaning staff and managers shall receive environmental safety and health training, addressing, at minimum, hazards associated with the use, disposal and recycling of cleaning chemicals, dispensing equipment and packaging.

Training Topics

TRAINING TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Employee safety and health compliance as it relates to the cleaning program
- Regulatory compliance standards—OSHA, EPA, and other local, state, and federal rules and regulations
- Unsafe attitudes and conditions in the work place through Job Safety Analysis—OSHA JSA or JHA (Job Hazard Analysis)
- Employee performance improvement, such as accident prevention and record-keeping
- Compliance with health and safety rules, and regulation and confidentiality issues
- Safe chemical storage and handling
- Disposal and recycling of cleaning chemicals, dispensing equipment and packaging
- Cleaning procedures including: restrooms, hallways, entrances, stairwells, common areas, bedrooms and offices.