



Our Mission: To deliver exceptional Support, Training, Education and Products to authorized Multi-Clean distributors in order to provide customers with the tools to make the challenge of cleaning commercial facilities easier, more efficient, and safer.

GREEN CLEANING RESOURCE Guide

Last Updated: June 8, 2010

Product Standards

Description: Green Seal is a non-profit organization that functions as a third party certifier for green products.

Web: www.greenseal.org



Notes: You can go to this site to look up products from manufacturers as a way to verify products that are Green Seal Certified. Multi-Clean has certified products under three Green Seal Standards: GS-37 for **Institutional and Industrial Cleaners**, GS-40 for **Floor Care Products**, and GS-41A for **Hand Soaps**.

Description: The Design for the Environment (DfE) program is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's third party certification organization. Like Green Seal, DfE certified cleaning products have been evaluated for health, safety, environmental impacts, and performance.

Web: www.epa.gov/dfc



Notes: Multi-Clean has several products certified by DfE under the category **Industrial and Institutional Cleaning Products**. These products can be located on the DfE website for verification.

Description: The BioPreferredSM program was launched by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to increase the purchase and use of renewable, environmentally friendly biobased products while providing "green" jobs and new markets for U.S. farmers, manufacturers, and vendors.

Web: www.biopreferred.gov



Notes: Multi-Clean offers a variety of Plant PowerTM bio-based products that are listed in the USDA's BioPreferredSM Catalog under the headings **Glass Cleaners, General Purpose Cleaners, and Bathroom Cleaners**.



Operational Standards

Description: **LEED® Standards:** The United States Green Building Council is a non-profit organization that develops sustainability standards for new and existing public and private buildings.

Web: www.usgbc.org



Notes: An good resource document that provides an overview of the LEED®-EB (Existing Buildings, Operation and Maintenance) standard, including green cleaning specific pre-requisites and credits is available, to view [CLICK HERE](#) .

Green Cleaning Process Standards

Description: The **Green Seal™ Environmental Standard for Commercial and Institutional Cleaning Services GS-42**, establishes environmental requirements for cleaning service providers of commercial, public, and institutional buildings, including in-house and external cleaning services, to create a green cleaning program that protects human health and the environment.

Web: www.greenseal.org



Notes: The standard is an excellent blueprint for a Building Service Contractor that wants to offer green cleaning services to clients. To view the actual document, [CLICK HERE](#) .

Description: The **Cleaning Industry Management Standard (CIMS)** was launched by ISSA several years ago as a way to standardize sound business principles for cleaning organizations. CIMS applies to management, operations, performance systems, and processes associated with cleaning operations. Compliance with the Standard demonstrates an organization is structured to deliver consistent, quality services that are designed to meet the customer's needs and expectations.

Web: http://issa.com/?id=cleaning_industry_management_standard_cims&lg=

Notes: Recently ISSA added the designation CIMS-GB which added a green cleaning component to the standard. For distributors wishing to assist their customers with complying with CIMS, individuals can become ISSA Certification Experts (I.C.E.) by taking an ISSA sponsored course.

University and Higher Education Resources

Description: AASHE is an association of colleges and universities that are working to create a sustainable future.

Web: <http://www.aashe.org/>

Notes: A good resource for University personnel with great ideas on how to implement a campus wide sustainability program.

Schools, K-12

Description: EPA Tools for Schools is a comprehensive selection of information and tools dedicated to improve indoor air quality in our schools.

Web: <http://www.epa.gov/iaq/schools/>

Notes: Virtually every K-12 Schools could benefit from the information and resources aimed at improving indoor air quality in schools.

Description: The Healthy Schools Campaign is a non profit organization that advocates the creation of healthier schools. The HSC brings together the cleaning industry, educational leaders, parents and advocates in a rapidly growing Green Team whose mission is to encourage schools to adopt environmentally friendly policies, practices and products.

Web: www.greencleanschools.org

Notes: The Quick and Easy Guide to Green Cleaning is a free resource available to K-12 Schools. The Guide comes as a CD Rom and is full of practical resources. As a sponsor, Multi-Clean is listed on the back side of the guide and also has green product listings in the guide itself.

Green Cleaning
Official Sponsor

healthy
schools
campaign

Team Supporter

Government

Description: Executive Order 13101 is an environmentally preferable purchasing directive that gives preference to the purchase of green products by government agencies.

Web: <http://www.epa.gov/epp/pubs/13101.pdf>

Notes: The complete executive order was issued by then President Clinton in 1998 and directed the government to give preference in the purchase of environmentally friendly products.

Healthcare

Description: **Practice Greenhealth** is the nation's leading membership and networking organization for institutions in the healthcare community that have made a commitment to sustainable, eco-friendly practices.

Web: <http://www.practicegreenhealth.org/>

Notes: Formerly called Hospitals for a Healthier Environment.

Description: **Healthcare Without Harm**

Web: <http://www.noharm.org/>

Notes: Another advocacy group that promotes green practices in healthcare.

Laws and Legislation Information

Description: **GREEN CLEANING Legislation** is on the rise with 11 states mandating the use of green cleaning products in schools. The best resource to research current and proposed legislation is ISSA. If you are a member, you may have to log in. Much of the information on the site does not require a log in or membership.

Web: www.issa.com

Notes: The very useful guide from ISSA is the update on Green procurement policies broken down by state. Here is a link to the guide, but a member log in may be required to access this document.

<http://www.issa.com//data/File/regulatory/Green%20Cleaning%20Product%20Procurement%20Policies.pdf>

Newletters and Blogs

Description: **The Ashkin Group** is an independent consulting organization that specializes in the cleaning industry. Their leader, Steve Ashkin, is well known as one of the leading experts on green cleaning.

Web: <http://www.ashkingroup.com/homenew.html>

Notes: Publisher of **Destination Green**, an excellent e-Newsletter dedicated to green cleaning subject matter.

Books and Other Publications

Description: **Green Cleaning for Dummies** is a comprehensive book on green cleaning written by Steve Ashkin and David Holly. The book is an excellent primer for those that want to learn more about green cleaning.

Web: www.ashkingroup.com

Notes: Ashkin and Holly have published several other green cleaning books that are available through ISSA or the Ashkin Group website. Also, sign up for the e-Newsletter DESTINATION GREEN, a very good publication with a focus' on green cleaning.

Award and Recognition Programs

Description: **The Safer Detergents Stewardship Initiative (SDSI)** was launched by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to recognize manufacturers and formulators of cleaning products that have proactively eliminated harmful ingredients from their formulations. Those that accomplished this task were designated "Environmental Champions" and can use the DfE logo for the purpose of promotion.

Web: <http://www.epa.gov/dfe/pubs/projects/formulat/sdsi.htm>

Notes: Multi-Clean was one of 20 companies that were awarded the Environmental Champion designation. Of interest, many of the familiar manufacturers in the cleaning industry were absent from this list. To view the list of CHAMPIONS, [CLICK HERE](#)

