

The background of the slide features a dense pattern of vibrant green leaves, likely from a tree or shrub, with prominent veins. At the bottom of the image, there are soft, circular ripples in a light blue-green water, suggesting a natural, fresh environment. The overall aesthetic is clean, green, and eco-friendly.

Transit Custodial Green Cleaning and Conservation Program

A Presentation by the

**Peggy Meyer, Lorri Kaufman and
Talon Swanson**

There is more to Green
Cleaning than getting rid of
mops and buckets, aerosols &
toxic products





“Green” Cleaning includes

- **Lighting Options**
- **Water conservation**
- **Waste reduction**
- **Recycling**
- **HVAC monitoring**
- **Landscape maintenance**
- **Closets**
- **Equipment**
- **Employees**
- **Policies**
- **Operating procedures**
- **Operating processes**
- **Cleaning products**
- **Temperature Control**
- **Time of day**
- **Volume of people**
- **Entryways**
- **Occupants**



It establishes a protocol so a sustainability program and policy will...

- **Use environmentally preferred products and ergonomic tools**
- **Improve air quality and reduce allergens and other asthma triggers from the built environment**
- **Reduce the spread of germs and disease**
- **Conserve energy and water use**
- **Promote worker safety, efficiency and effectiveness**
- **Use cleaning products responsibly**
- **Lengthen the useful life of facilities**

Challenges to Our Transitioning

- **administrative time**
 - job task revisions
 - audits/inspections
 - research/review
 - process reviews
 - creating:
policies, procedures
standards
- **shared workspaces**
- **training and re-training**
- **lack of accountability**
- **trials of products & equipments**
- **MSDS reviews by our Environmental Scientist –(challenge for her)**



Overcoming Challenges

- **Made a decision to move forward**
- **Support from upper levels**
- **Communication**
- **Use of available resources rather than wasting time on “re-inventing the wheel”**
- **Write a policy**
- **Finalize procedures**
- **Create Time Standards**
- **Keep repeating**
- **Patience**



New mops and equipment



Scrubbing Equipment to Conserve Water



Process Adjustments



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GREEN CLEANING POLICY

TRANSIT CUSTODIAL MAINTENANCE



King County

Transit Custodial Maintenance

Approved by Section Manager: Jerry Rutledge

Policies and Procedures

Subject: Green Cleaning

Description

- The Custodial Work group recognizes a sense of responsibility that demands that we fulfill our mission that is earth and human friendly. In keeping with our vision affirm a commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainability and establish a protocol for a cleaning program which focuses on cleaning approaches that are consistent and applicable to all facilities and applied to any area.

Policy:

- To ensure clean facilities by using products responsibly, encompassing not only environmentally preferred cleaning products but equipment, tools, processes, standards, task schedules and frequencies, that contribute toward implementation of a total green cleaning program. Also to ensure that the Work group is aware of their responsibility in implementing the policy.

Procedures:

- Use products that meet EPA standards with high post-consumer recycled content.
- Use cleaning products that meet standards comparable to GC-37 and/or products with low-volatile organic compounds (VOC) whenever applicable and available.
- Conserve water, energy and other resources while providing a clean, safe and sanitary environment.
- Use products that are diluted and/or dispensed to appropriate levels, from concentrated delivery system.
- Improve air quality and to reduce allergens and other asthma triggers from the environment
- Standard operating procedures are instituted which include training for employees on products, equipment and supplies.
- Supplies and products will be used correctly, that are authorized and that training has been provided in the appropriate use;
- Authorization to use or get only products on the supply list.
- Monthly Safety Meeting attendance and topic is documented.
- Aerosol products are not to be used.
- Educate building occupants of their responsibilities and cooperation that compliment the



**TRANSIT
CUSTODIAL
GREEN CLEANING**
Operating Manual -
Practices and Policies



Example of General Cleaning Procedures:

- All Office Areas:
- Classrooms/Conference Rooms/Quiet Rooms:
- Hallways/Stairways:
- Weight Rooms:
- Restroom Cleaning Procedure
- Lunchroom Areas:
- Building Elevators:
- Entry and Bullpen Areas:
- Exterior Areas:
- All Maintenance Shop Areas:
- Custodial Closets

Green Cleaning Guidelines

(sample from Operating manual)

Paper Products:

- **Paper Towel**: made with 100% recycled fiber - Scott
- **Toilet Paper**: 100% recycled (GS Certified) - Eco Soft
- **C-Fold Towels**: meets US EPA standards for post-consumer recycled content.- Scott

Flooring Products

- **Envirox Quick Spot** – spot remover – (GS-37)
- **Envirox Carpet Complete Cleaner** – (GS-37)
- **Sustainable Earth 80** – (GS-37)

Cleaning Products:

- **Envirox H2Orange2** – All purpose Cleaner and laundry (GS-37)
- **Envirox Greasinator** – Dirt/grease spot remover (GS-37);
- **DfE* Bio-Zyme** – oil and grease remover
- **Triple Zero – (Zero FP)** – Heavy-duty cleaner (green solutions)
- **DfE* VMR** - Graffiti Remover

Recycling/Reuse Program

- Launder micro-fiber rags and mops after use.
- Launder-able gloves get re-used;
- Desk-side recycle bins in office areas
- Commodities include: scrap metal, paper, cardboard, plastic,
- Water conservation measures – adjusting work process.



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Sustainable Cleaning Standards

(An Overview)

Created by
Washington State Cleaning Industry
Professionals



Highlights for Required Certification

- **Section I: CLEANING CHEMICALS**
- **Section II: EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS**
- **Section III: QUALITY CONTROL**
- **Section IV: CLEANING SPECS – Schedules & Frequencies**
- **Section V: CUSTODIAL PRODUCTIVITY**
- **Section VI: EFFECTIVENESS**
- **Section VII: EMPLOYEE TRAINING**
- **Section VIII: SAFETY**
- **Section IX: ERGONOMICS**
- **Section X: COMMUNICATION**
- **Section XI: RELATED TO SECURITY**
- **Section XII: WASTE, ENERGY & WATER REDUCTION**
- **Section XIII: MANAGEMENT CONTROLS/ACCOUNTABILITY**
- **Section XVI: CLOSETS AND SUPPLY AREAS**
- **Section XVII: CUSTODIAL CARTS**
- **Section XVI: CARPET CLEANING**
- **Section XVII: SUSTAINABLE PROCESSES**

RESOURCES

- Standards and criteria for certifications:
 - **Washington State Cleaning Industry Professionals**
 - **Green Seal Standard 42**
- Format for operating procedures, Hamilton College

Peggy Meyer -- 206-684-2737

Lorri Kaufman -- 206-684-2564

Talon Swanson -- 206-684-2261



Questions?