Vassar Green Cleaning program

Statement of Purpose
This Green Cleaning Program has been designed to ensure a healthy and safe environment for the people who visit or work at Vassar. This program has been developed in accordance with LEED-ED IEQ credits 10.3: Low Environmental Impact Cleaning Policy.

The Buildings & Grounds Department oversees the management of custodial staff, the purchase of all cleaning supplies and equipment and will ensure this green cleaning program is followed.

The College has long had a commitment to using cleaning products and practices that reduce the harmful impacts on the environment and the community, as documented in the 2011 and 2014 AASHE STARS reports.

The Purpose of this Program
The greatest risk associated with cleaning and maintaining a building is to the custodial workers and building occupants. Thousands of pounds of cleaning chemicals are used annually and according to a study in California study this use equated to more than 60 pounds of hazardous materials per person per year. Not only does this contribute to unsafe working conditions for employees, but the improper disposal of cleaning compounds contributes to groundwater contamination.

Green Cleaning supports the health of our community, our buildings, and our environment.

Program Components

1. Cleaning Products
The products selected for use on campus are certified by Green Seal, the leading non-profit that developed the benchmark for environmentally friendly cleaning products.

See number 8 for documentation of the approved products.

2. Cleaning Equipment
Energy efficient and ergonomically friendly equipment are purchased for use in the buildings. All cloths and mops are reusable and utilize microfiber technology to reduce cleaning chemical consumption.

See number 8 for documentation of the approved products.

3. Hand Hygiene

Non-touch soap dispensers are installed throughout bathrooms, kitchen areas, break rooms, and locker rooms across campus. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are installed and provided in public areas.

4. Safe Handling and Storage
Limited quantities of cleaning product are kept in building janitorial closets. Staff are trained on safe handling and proper storage.

5. Staffing and Training
Buildings & Grounds has implemented a training program for the custodial team across campus in partnership with Hillyard U. The 1.5 hour trainings are weekly for January 2016 and will then continue monthly until October 2016. Team members will receive a Certificate of Completion at the end and there will be opportunities for further professional development onwards.

The CCAP management suite from Hillyard is used across campus to develop the staffing plans for buildings, including the time and materials needed for each task on a weekly and monthly basis.

See number 8 for documentation of the approved products.

6. Feedback Loops
Department heads and administrative assistants have specific contact information for their building's custodial manager. Feedback is always welcome and Buildings & Grounds fosters open communication with Departments about the needs of their building.

7. Energy Efficiency
CFLs, LEDs, and high efficiency tube lighting are prioritized throughout buildings. Incandescent bulbs are not stocked by Buildings & Grounds.

8. Specifications & Equipment Documentation of a high-performance cleaning program

Product List

Product	**Use**	**Green Seal Certified**
Super Shine All	Floor and surface cleaner	Yes
Top Clean	Table and metal cleaner	Yes
Carpet Pre-Spray & Extraction	Carpet cleaner	Yes
Green Select Degreaser Cleaner	Degreaser	Yes

Suprox - Heavy Duty	Degreaser	Yes
Suprox - Glass & Floor	Glass, Mirrors, Hard Floors	Yes

Equipment
The Green Cleaning Policy prioritizes the purchase of energy efficient and environmentally friendly cleaning equipment. The following machines are used:

The equipment currently used includes the AquaClean 16XP carpet cleaner, the SC1500 stand up floor scrubber, and the Hillyard Cleaning Companion. All three reduce water usage, chemical usage, and are designed to be ergonomically friendly