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DIRECTIVE: 752

Date: September 5, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Green Cleaning Commitment

PURPOSE: To reduce exposure of staff to potentially hazardous chemical

contaminants that adversely impact their well-being, and to reduce the

department's and the college's ecological footprint.

**CANCELLATION:** Not Applicable

## POLICY:

Our Green Cleaning program goes beyond chemical and equipment choices. It includes procedures, training, and shared responsibility efforts that minimize the impact of cleaning materials on the health of building occupants and protect the environment as a whole.

We are committed to continuously improve our Green Cleaning Program by:

- Using sustainable cleaning products that have less environmental and human health impact than other products that serve the same purpose.
- Conserving energy, water, and other resources while still providing a clean, healthy, sanitary environment.
- Educating, training, and motivating custodial staff to work in an environmentally responsible manner.
- Complying with all relevant current legislation and industry standards.

## COMMITMENT:

- 1. Utilize cleaning processes and procedures that consider the balance between cost, effectiveness, safety, environmental impact, industry standards and final disposal of product.
- 2. Implement green cleaning standards and best practices when financially feasible. This includes working to understand the benefits of using environmentally friendly cleaning products and identifying new green cleaning products as they become available.
- 3. Limit the number of products used to clean.
- 4. Avoid using any product that when used properly and responsibly poses a health or environmental threat.
- 5. Avoid using any product that contains a chemical or compound that has been identified as a chemical or a group of chemicals to avoid.
- 6. Avoid using chemicals that when used at safe levels are bio-accumulative, meaning they are stored in the body and can build up over time creating high concentrations that may be potentially harmful.
- 7. Utilize third party certified green cleaning products and comply with all LEED certification building or remodel requirements for green cleaning products.
- 8. Increase the amount of bio-based products and reduce the amount of petroleum based products. This is necessary to reduce petroleum consumption, increase the use of renewable resources, better manage the carbon cycle, and may contribute to reducing adverse environmental and health impacts
- 9. Purchase items in concentrated form to reduce packaging and the adverse environmental effects of transporting the product from its place of manufacture.
- 10. Purchase products that are responsibly manufactured and distributed, and can be disposed of with minimal environmental effect.

11. Utilize products that use reduced, recycled, or recyclable packaging whenever possible.

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**Associate Vice President** 

Facilities Management