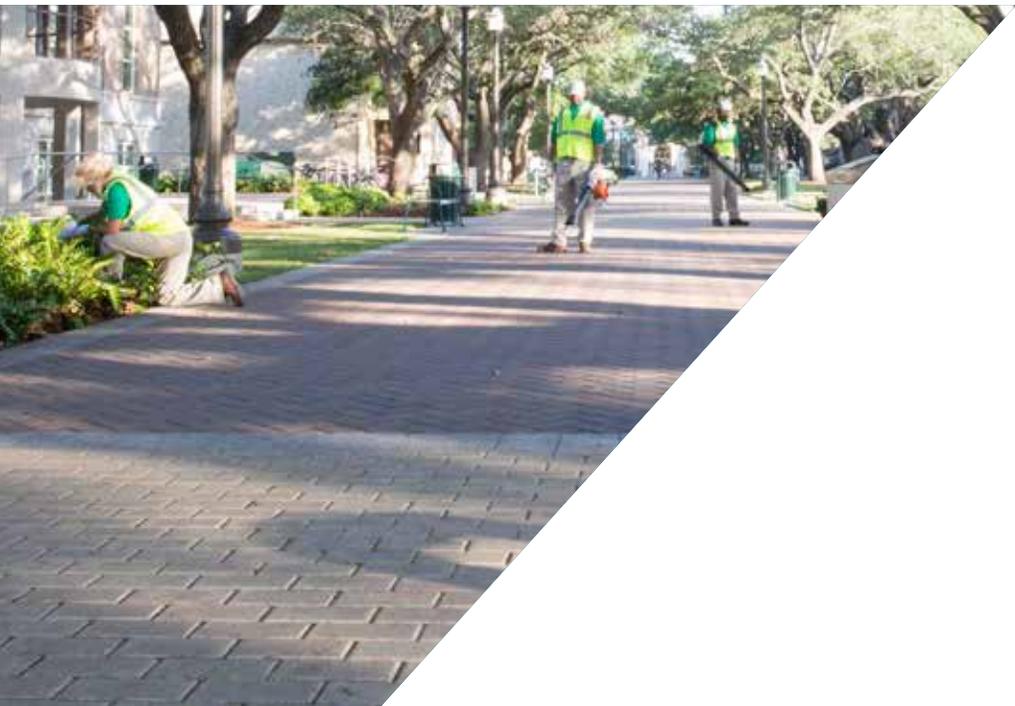




Sustainability



“During discussions with [SSC] on requirements to be in compliance with LEED Certification, it was recognized from the beginning that SSC was on top of their game..”

– Evalene Maxwell, SSC customer

SSC and Your Environment

SSC understands that a successful and quality learning environment should be one in which students, faculty and staff are in a safe and healthy setting. Toxic chemicals and wasteful practices are unhealthy not only for your constituents, but also for the surrounding communities linked to your facilities. Now more than ever, we need to be conscious of our impact on our surroundings. Sustainability is about more than just utilizing green chemicals during cleaning, which is why SSC has developed a multifaceted approach to sustainability.

SSC has the experience and knowledge to help you create, maintain and/or grow a first-rate and customized sustainability program. If not currently in place, implementing a sustainability program can require substantial changes to every aspect of your facility. With years of experience and industry leading professionals, SSC is the perfect partner to help you achieve your goals.



LEED Green Associate

SSC's President, Seth Ferriell, is LEED Green certified by the Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI). He completed the LEED Green Associate course and has played an active part in maintaining the LEED Green Certified buildings cleaned by SSC. His certification validates his competency in green practices and signifies that he is a qualified, educated and influential green building professional within the cleaning industry. SSC also provides service to a number of LEED certified buildings.



Custodial Services and Sustainability

SSC's Purely Green Standard

SSC has written and put into practice a Purely Green Standard to encourage the use of environmentally responsible chemicals, equipment and processes, as well as to help protect the health of those in and around the buildings that adhere to the standard. This standard encourages decisions, in the tasks that we do every day, which will result in a less harmful impact on the environment both locally and worldwide. The standard aims to reduce exposure to harmful chemicals, improve indoor air quality and conserve natural resources, all while maintaining a clean learning environment. It is our hope that the standard will also educate workers and students alike so that environmentally conscious decisions will continue beyond these walls and impact those in the community; all of which will result in a cleaner, healthier world for everyone.

For a copy of SSC's Purely Green Standard, please go to: sscserv.com/purelygreenstandard.

Green Cleaning

In an effort to provide the most environmentally safe programs, SSC carries a complete line of Green Seal approved, EPA-registered and environmentally friendly cleaning products. Many buildings that use green cleaning products have cut costs and dramatically reduced the number of chemicals they use. These products are safer, deliver high-quality results, and have minimal environmental impact. Our equipment suppliers offer a wide variety of cleaning equipment including floor and carpet cleaning machines and vacuums. These energy-efficient machines improve indoor air quality through the use of HEPA filters and reduce water and product consumption through more efficient, controlled systems. These tools are also effective at improved infection control. Through effective sustainable practices, SSC assists our clients by continuing and/or achieving the following:

- A more positive impact on indoor air quality
- Increased worker and occupant safety
- Increased worker productivity
- LEED certification points
- Reduced absenteeism
- Reduced environmental impact

Greater detail on our green cleaning and recycled content products and tools can be found in the Supply and Equipment sections of this proposal.

Recycling and Waste Management

SSC incorporates extensive recycling programs that reduce your facilities' environmental impact while minimizing waste processing costs and promoting a green-conscious culture among students. Along with standard recycling processes, SSC can also recycle food waste into fertilizer for your natural landscape, or even biofuel for vehicle fleets.



POM Sustainability Options

Energy Management

In addition to tangible practices, monitoring and controlling energy consumption is a significant sustainable practice that can have a major impact on your bottom line. SSC has developed a comprehensive energy management program that can make all necessary operational adjustments to maximize efficiency in heating, cooling, and electrical usage. From small, energy-efficient upgrades to major capital expenditures, SSC can deliver significant long-term ROI through utility and cost reduction helping you realize revenue growth that can be applied to other areas to help you achieve your goals.

Energy Consumption Monitoring

Energy conservation begins with an evaluation of current and historical consumption. At the outset of our program, we perform a facility-wide energy audit that identifies consumption patterns. We review utility invoices to verify usage and accuracy of charges, chart seasonal fluctuations, and become familiar with rates, penalties and off-hour discounts. To ensure accuracy of our data, we develop a two-year historical profile, which then serves as the “base year” to which future utility consumption is compared.

Procedural Controls

Controlling equipment to ensure it operates as designed and turns on and off when needed is essential to conserving energy. Therefore, SSC focuses on HVAC systems to ensure that automatic controls are properly programmed, calibrated, and operating. Other procedures we follow to conserve energy include:

- **Temperature Control** – We monitor control settings, including setback for night or unoccupied periods, as building equipment allows.
- **Air Exhaust Systems** – We manage the operating times of air exhaust systems to minimize the waste caused by unnecessarily removing conditioned air.
- **Chillers** – Chillers, cooling towers and pumps often operate when outside air can satisfy interior needs. As building equipment allows, we make appropriate changes to HVAC systems and operating procedures to achieve this.
- **Mechanical Equipment** – As part of our corrective maintenance program, we address the condition of all equipment and make necessary repairs. Our initial focus is usually on the high-energy demanding electro/mechanical equipment to ensure it operates efficiently.
- **Lighting Control** – Lighting usually represents an opportunity for cost savings. We manage the facilities lighting to eliminate waste and increase efficiency. This includes such items as additional conversion to energy-efficient lamps and ballasts or installing motion sensors and photocells to control lighting.

Sustainable Building Design

SSC can assist with building materials selection, energy-efficient design, and reduction in construction waste to ensure your new facility or expansion project has the smallest possible environmental impact. Furthermore, SSC can aid with the LEED certification process to ensure safer, healthier buildings.

Grounds Management Sustainability Options

Green Space Management

Sustainability means meeting the needs of the present without compromising our future generations' ability to do the same. SSC is acutely aware of this in its grounds management program and recognizes that not all landscapes are the same. Therefore, we have designed custom programs to meet the needs and objectives specific to each individual account. A sustainable landscape will improve the environment by conserving resources, reducing pesticides and fertilizer applications, harvesting rainwater and reducing emissions through better equipment selection.

SSC's sustainable management principles include improving plant health through sound cultural management strategies including: integrated pest management (IPM), plant health care, water conservation practices (audit irrigation systems, installation of rain/soil moisture sensors, rainwater harvesting, stormwater management, collection of stormwater for irrigation), equipment selection (fuel and noise emission), and sustainability training for our personnel. In addition, SSC implements a variety of compost techniques to reintroduce trees, shrubs, lawn clippings, leaves, and wood into the landscape.

SSC has also developed a state-of-the art organic management program to assist with LEED certification. This program replaces all synthetic products within a current IPM program with natural organic solutions including fertilizer.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program

SSC implements an environmentally friendly approach to pest management. Pests can be best described as any insect, weed, or disease that may affect the health of a desirable plant (ground, landscape, and athletic fields). IPM emphasizes regular inspection and monitoring of pests to detect them at low activity to establish acceptable thresholds. It is then decided if a control measure is needed. Better health management of plants reduces pest populations and creates a resistance for plants with moderate to light pest incidence. If control measures are necessary, the pest is managed with a combination of techniques that are economically feasible and that reduce risk to human health, property, and the environment. Our goal is to implement an IPM program in grounds, landscape, and athletic field management.

Plant Health Care Program

Plant health care takes IPM to a higher level by focusing on the growing environment. Better managing of the site begins with a thorough site assessment, both above and below ground. Site inventory includes identifying all ornamental plants and then identifying their requirement for survival. Some principles are very similar to managing our personal health: reduce stress, monitor frequently, identify problems early, make informed decisions, provide long-term proven solutions and keep detailed records.

