



# GREEN CLEANING POLICY

*Catawba County is committed to providing a healthy and productive work environment as well as clean and well-maintained buildings. This policy outlines the specific cleaning practices for Catawba County buildings, which will maintain good indoor air quality, increase occupant health and comfort, assure a clean building, and provide a healthy environment for janitorial contractors.*

## I. Use of sustainable cleaning products



Catawba County's minimum standards established for environmental preferability and performance of products are based on Green Seal and EcoLogo standards. When Green Seal or EcoLogo certified products are not available, cleaning products must comply with the California Code of Regulation maximum allowable VOC levels. In addition, when Green Seal or EcoLogo certified products are not available, Catawba County prefers more environmentally friendly products over conventional cleaning agents. Catawba County has a list of specifications for all cleaning products used by janitorial services vendors in Catawba County buildings.

## II. Use of chemical concentrates and appropriate dilution systems

Catawba County requires janitorial services providers to use proportioning systems that mix concentrated cleaning reagents. These systems require no measurement and insure proper dilution of chemical concentrates. Dilution systems are located in each building and are accompanied by clearly posted operating instructions in English and Spanish.

1. Closed dilution system
2. Portion controlled/locked in system. You cannot change the dilution rate.
3. System attaches directly to the faucet?
4. Easy slide bottle feature allows for quick product changes
5. Instantly primes. When disengaged, product instantly drains back into the container. No Cross Contamination
6. Each product is numbered and color coded for simplified use (the concentrated bottles and the spray bottles are both color coded).



7. Educator system is more accurate over varying water pressures than gravity drip system
8. Upright bottle design will not leak or drip

### **III. Proper training of maintenance personnel in the hazards, use, maintenance and disposal of cleaning chemicals, dispensing equipment and packaging**

Catawba County requires that the janitorial products contractor provide initial and ongoing training for its janitorial services contractors while also providing training materials that are picture-based with both English and Spanish text. Specific attention will be paid to the following areas:

1. Safe Handling and Disposal of Cleaning Materials
2. Ergonomic Training Including Safe Lifting Practices and Proper Equipment Handling
3. Proper Mixing and Dilution of Concentrated Chemicals
4. Effective Recycling: Proper Handling, Sorting, and Disposal of Recycling and Trash
5. Reading MSDS Sheets and the Locations of MSDS Sheets
6. Hazardous and Blood Borne Pathogens Training

### **IV. Use of hand soaps that do not contain antimicrobial agents except where required by health codes and other regulations**

Catawba County requires that all hand soap must not contain any antimicrobial agents except in food service and health provision areas.

### **V. Use of cleaning equipment that reduces impacts on IAQ**

Catawba County requires that janitorial services vendors abide by the following equipment requirements:

1. All vacuum cleaners must meet the requirements of the Carpet & Rug Institute "Green Label" Testing Program. Carpet extraction equipment must meet at a minimum the Carpet and Rug Institute Bronze Seal of Approval.
2. Powered floor maintenance equipment must be equipped with controls or other devices for capturing and collecting particulates.
3. Powered scrubbing machines must be equipped with a control method for variable rate dispensing to optimize the use of cleaning fluids.
4. Janitorial services contractors must use the appropriate technology (coarse spray bottles, automatic chemical dispensers on powered equipment, etc.) for applying the chemical product in a manner that does not result in overuse and waste of the product.
5. Janitorial services contractors must use microfiber cloths when possible.
6. Catawba County also encourages the use of microfiber cloths. Catawba County requires janitorial services contractors to use restroom cleaning equipment specifically for restroom cleaning only. Restroom cleaning equipment, excepting powered equipment, shall not be used to clean any other areas of the building. Specific situations where it is more efficient and sanitary to clean otherwise are exempt, such as hospital patient rooms with restrooms.

