Green Cleaning in New York State Schools

http://www.ogs.state.ny.us/bldgadmin/environmental/default.html
nysogsesu@ogs.state.ny.us for e-mail questions or comments
Green Cleaning Legislation

• **Green Cleaning Legislation (S 5435)**
  – Applies to Green Cleaning at schools
  – Implement by 9/01/06
  – OGS is lead agency with support from DEC, DOH, SED, and DOL
Schools Legislation

• S 5435
  – To amend the Education Law and the State Finance Law to require elementary and secondary schools to procure and use environmentally-sensitive cleaning and maintenance products in schools, with assistance from, and in accordance with guidelines prescribed by, the Commissioner of the Office of General Services.
Definition

• What are environmentally-sensitive cleaning and maintenance products?
  – for the purposes of implementing this law, defined as cleaning and maintenance products that clean effectively and minimize adverse impacts on school children, employee health and the environment.
Green Cleaning Guidelines

- Comprehensive development process
- How schools should use the guidelines
- Related rules and guidelines
- Best Management Practices
- Change in sanitary paper products
- Commitment to update
Product Categories

• General Purpose Cleaners
• Bathroom Cleaners
• Carpet Cleaners
• Glass, Windows, and Mirror Cleaners
• Hand Soaps
• Hard Floor Protection
  • Floor Finish
  • Floor Strippers
• Vacuum Cleaners
Certification

• Green Seal or Environmental Choice

• Alternative protocol in absence of these certifications

• Vacuums - Carpet and Rug Institute Green Label
Procurement

• OGS website listing of products

• Preferred Sources (Corcraft, IBNYS, NYSID)

• State Contract
Implementation Challenges

• Response to Comments document located at http://www.ogs.state.ny.us/bldgadmin/environmental/toc.html

  – Sorted comments into 54 categories, which included such issues as:
    • Not adequately protecting children’s health
    • Should not rely solely on Green Seal standards
    • Restrict use of disinfectants
    • Floor finish
    • Fragrances
Next Steps

• Finalize alternative process for approved products

• Advanced Custodial Practices consulting contract

• Updating of GS-37 and other guideline provisions, product listings

• Reporting Requirement: By June 1, 2007