



Green Cleaning Requirements July 1, 2012 Deadline

House File 823 - Passed during 2010 Session.

(Legislation on the left and requirements of district annotated in boxes.)

AN ACT

REQUIRING PUBLIC SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY COLLEGES, INSTITUTIONS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE STATE BOARD OF REGENTS, AND STATE AGENCIES TO COMPLY WITH AN ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE POLICY UNLESS SPECIFIED CONDITIONS FOR NONCOMPLIANCE ARE SATISFIED.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. NEW SECTION. 8A.318 Building cleaning and maintenance == environmentally preferable cleaning products.

1. Findings and intent. The general assembly finds that human beings are vulnerable to and may be severely affected by exposure to chemicals, hazardous waste, and other environmental hazards. The federal environmental protection agency estimates that human exposure to indoor air pollutants can be two to times, and up to one hundred times, higher than outdoor levels. Children, teachers, janitors, and other staff members spend a significant amount of time inside school buildings. Likewise, state employees and citizens of this state spend a significant amount of time inside state buildings. These individuals are continuously exposed to chemicals from cleaners, waxes, deodorizers, and other maintenance products.

2. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

a. "Environmentally preferable cleaning and maintenance products" includes but is not limited to cleaning and maintenance products identified by the department and posted on the department's internet site.

b. "State building" means a public facility or building owned by or leased by the state, or an agency or department of the state.

3. Use of environmentally preferable cleaning and maintenance products.

a. All school districts in this state, community colleges, institutions under the control of the state board of regents, and state agencies utilizing state buildings, are encouraged to conform to an environmentally preferable cleaning policy designed to facilitate the purchase and use of environmentally preferable cleaning and maintenance products for purposes of public school, community college, regents institution, and state building cleaning and maintenance.

b. Each school district, community college, institution under the control of the state board of regents, or state agency utilizing public buildings shall conduct an evaluation and assessment regarding implementation of an environmentally preferable cleaning policy pursuant to this section.

On or after July 1, 2012, all state agencies, and all school

Green products identified on the Dept. of Admin. Services (DAS) web site list: The DAS site cross links to the Iowa Prison Industries at <http://www.iaprisonind.com/html/s hopprodserv/chemicals.asp#green>

Green clean policy is encouraged. School districts shall conduct an evaluation and assessment of implementation of green cleaning.

School districts are required to either implement a green cleaning policy by July 1, 2012 or opt out of the green cleaning process, after conducting evaluation and assessment.
OK to use up old supplies.
OK to use products to protect public health

districts, community colleges, and institutions under the control of the state board of regents which have not opted out of compliance pursuant to paragraph "c", shall purchase only cleaning and maintenance products identified by the department or that meet nationally recognized standards. School districts, community colleges, institutions under the control of the state board of regents, and state agencies procuring supplies for schools and state buildings may deplete their existing cleaning and maintenance supply stocks and implement the new requirements in the procurement cycle for the following year. This section shall not be interpreted in a manner that prohibits the use of disinfectants, disinfecting cleaners, sanitizers, or any other antimicrobial product regulated by the federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, 7 U.S.C. { 136 et seq., when necessary to protect public health and provided that the use of these products is in accordance with responsible cleaning procedure requirements.

c. A school district, community college, or institution under the control of the state board of regents may, based upon the evaluation and assessment conducted pursuant to paragraph "b", opt out of compliance with the requirements of this section, upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the board of directors of the school district or a determination by the president of the community college or by the president or administrative officer of the regents institution. A school district, community college, or regents institution opting out of compliance pursuant to this paragraph shall notify the department of education, the state board for community colleges, or the state board of regents, respectively, of this decision.

Board must pass a resolution, after conducting the evaluation and assessment, to opt out and notify the DE.

4. Information requirements == department internet site. The department shall provide information on the department's internet site regarding environmentally preferable cleaning and maintenance products used by the department. The department may also provide information regarding other cleaning and maintenance products that the department is aware of that meet nationally recognized standards. Information shall also be provided, at the discretion of the department, regarding the nationally recognized standards and the entity establishing the standards.

Other information: According to DAS, green cleaning products meet these criteria (from the Iowa Prison Industry's definition of environmentally responsible products, green products must be)

- Biodegradable
- Phosphate-free
- Free of APEs (alkylphenol ethoxylates) and NPEs (nonylphenol ethoxylates)
- Non-flammable
- Non-toxic
- Ultra-concentrates
- In user-friendly packaging
- Green Seal certified

More information regarding green cleaning for schools at the DAS web site specifically created for school districts: <http://das.iowa.gov/greencleanschools.html> ISFIS Oct. 2010

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