



Cleanfax



[Click here for today's breaking news](#)

Keyword Search of Cleanfax Online's Archives:

[Email this article to a colleague](#)

[Print this page](#)

Archives - 4/21/2006 11:52:17 AM



Green Guidelines press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MEDIA CONTACT: ROBERT KRAVITZ
773-525-3021
RKRAVITZ@RCN.COM

CONCERNS MOUNT OVER GREEN GUIDELINES FOR NEW YORK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Recently, the New York State Office of General Services (OGS) posted for public comment its proposed guidelines and specifications for the procurement and use of environmentally sensitive (Green) cleaning products for all public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools in the state.

The Green Cleaning Guidelines and Specifications cover a variety of topics, including how to determine if a product is "Green" and properly use them, all in a much needed and admirable attempt to protect the health of children, teachers, staff, as well as the environment.

However, one section of the proposed guidelines—regarding the use of cold water when cleaning—has developed considerable controversy.

The proposed guidelines recommend that schools use only cold water in cleaning, including for carpet cleaning, instead of hot water for carpet extraction, because "hot water melts and spreads soils that are dissolvable by water, and those soils are likely to cling to the colder surface being cleaned."

Yet, this advice is not supported by many jansan industry organizations, cleaning consultants, and experts, including:

- The Carpet and Rug Institute, based in Dalton, GA
- The Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification, headquartered in Vancouver, WA
- Mohawk Carpets and Shaw Industries, two of the largest carpet

News and Article Topics

- [Archives](#)
- [Building Service Contract Cleaning](#)
- [Carpet/Floor Cleaning](#)
- [Distribution/Warehouse Issues](#)
- [e-Commerce](#)
- [Environmental Issues](#)
- [In-house Cleaning](#)
- [Industry Trends](#)
- [Labor/Employees/Training](#)
- [Legal/Government/Compliance Issues](#)
- [Manufacturers](#)
- [Quick Hits](#)
- [Sales and Marketing](#)

Specialized News/How To Tips

- [Cleaning for Health®](#)
- [Commercial Carpet Care](#)
- [Contract Cleaning](#)
- [Facilities Carpet Care](#)
- [Floor Care](#)
- [Green Cleaning](#)
- [Greening Your Facility](#)
- [Mold Remediation](#)
- [Mold Remediation Quiz](#)
- [No-Touch Cleaning](#)
- [Online Purchasing](#)
- [The Great Debate](#)
- [Upright Vacuum](#)



Site Menu

- Home
- i-Focus Info Centers
- CMI® Events
- Cleaning Management Institute
- Article Archives
- Buyers Guide to Suppliers
- Supplier Search
- CM Jobs Board™
- Training & Education
- Calendar Directory
- New Products
- Calendar
- Classifieds
- Bulletin Board
- Email Forum
- Web Links
- Rent Our Mailing Lists
- Headline News Service
- Advertising
- About Us
- Poll Archives
- Register
- Subscriber Services

This Month's Issue:

- [Psychological odors?](#)
- [The Great Debate™](#)
- [The pressures of tile cleaning](#)
- [Stay focused on the right things](#)

Sign up for your free subscription



manufacturers in the world, both based in Dalton, GA.

- U.S. Products, Coeur d'Alene, ID, Clarke® Floor and Carpet Machines, Phoenix AZ., and several other manufacturers of carpet extraction equipment.

"All of these organizations, as well as many others, have done extensive research on the use of "heat" when cleaning carpets and all report that hot water accelerates the molecular activity of chemicals and aids in the removal of soils from carpet fibers," says Stephen Williams, Senior Vice President for U.S. Products, Coeur d'Alene, ID. "Indeed, some studies go back nearly 100 years."

Mix or Clean

Williams suggests the guidelines may be confusing the mixing of cleaning chemicals with the actual use of them.

"Many of the major Green certification organizations recommend that cleaning products be mixed using cold water to help protect the user from the possibility of fumes being released during in the mixing process," he says. "This does not mean that the chemicals should be used with cold water."

According to Williams, virtually all manufactures' of portable and truckmount carpet cleaning-equipment heat the water or cleaning solution. "Again, because it is well-documented that heat improves cleaning effectiveness," he says.

The public comment period on the proposed guidelines ends on May 3, 2006. Williams asks that others concerned about this recommendation make their voices heard.

Comments may be sent to one of the following addresses:

- By e-mail: nysogesesu@ogs.state.ny.us. Place "Comments on Guidelines and Specifications" in the subject line.
- By mail: New York State Office of General Services
Empire State Plaza
Corning Tower
Environmental Services Unit - 39th Floor
Attention: Guidelines and Specifications
Albany, New York 12242

For more information on the legislation, visit the OGS Website at www.ogs.state.ny.us and click on the "Environmental Services Unit: Green Cleaning" link.

For more information on U.S. Products or the company's position on this topic, contact Steve Williams at (800) 257-7982.

[Archives Archives](#)

[View 100 Most Recent News Pieces](#)

All Content Copyright 2006
National Trade Publications Inc.

[Click Here](#) for details on our [Privacy Policy](#)

This site best viewed with: [NETSCAPE 4.7](#) or [Internet Explorer](#) .