

What's New

Excerpt from *Real Estate Weekly*:

For a variety of reasons, the trend towards outsourcing janitorial and other building services continues. Outsourcing janitorial services allows building managers to focus on their core operations.

Handling janitorial services in-house adds to your costs because you have to hire someone to oversee scheduling, benefits, staffing and all the other details. When you hire a contractor, this administrative overhead is built into the rate.

Outsourcing also makes it less difficult to secure part-time help as needed, based on the peaks and valleys of your building operations.

Also, outsourcing often insures better training, more thorough background screening, staff continuity and greater liability coverage, which can be extremely attractive.

While subcontracting of janitorial services has sometimes been viewed as simply a way of keeping down salaries and benefits, it also insures that building owners comply with all federal and state labor laws and regulations.

Excerpt from *Federal Environment Executive*:

Green Janitorial Products and Services

On average, Americans spend about 90 percent of their days indoors. EPA studies indicate that human exposure to air pollutants indoors can be 2-5 times, and occasionally up to 100 times, higher than outdoor levels.

Poor quality indoor air can produce health effects ranging from headaches and dry eyes to nausea, dizziness, and fatigue. We all want to work in an office environment that is comfortable, clean and safe. An important part of ensuring good indoor air quality in Federal facilities is choosing cleaning products that have a reduced impact on human health and the environment. We call these green cleaners.

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Today, more than ever, Federal facility managers are working with the acquisition community to develop contracts that encourage the use of cleaning agents with a reduced impact on the environment.

This information is designed for Federal facility managers, acquisition staff, health and safety officers and others who are considering the use of green cleaners.

Many Federal agencies have made the switch from the use of conventional cleaning products to green cleaning products and services.

Why convert to green cleaners?

- Helps you meet green purchasing mandates
- Promotes a healthier working environment
- Improves safety for janitorial workers
- Reduces your agency's environmental footprint
- Green purchasing is an important element of an Environmental Management System (EMS) now required for all federal facilities
- Helps create a more sizable market for cost effective high performance green products
- Helps position your agency as a leader in the use of sustainable business practices

