Development Authority of the North Country

Subject: Green Cleaning Products Use Policy
Adopted: 10/23/2025
Resolution: 2025-10-56

GREEN CLEANING PRODUCTS USE POLICY

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SECTION 1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

The Development Authority of the North Country (Authority), by Board Resolution No. 2009-10-04, adopted an Authority Environmental Policy Statement. This Environmental Policy Statement commits the Authority, and its employees, to act as responsible stewards of the environment. It further requires the integration of environmental protection and enhancement into planning, design, procurement, construction and operations. The Green Cleaning Products Use Policy was adopted by Board resolution 2011-02-03. The objective of this policy is to further strengthen the Authority's environmental stewardship by developing standard policies on the use of environmentally sound cleaning products.

SECTION 2.0 PURPOSE

2.1. If properly used, approved green cleaning products will minimize the adverse impacts on human health, property, and the environment.

2.2. New York State Office of General Services promotes the implementation of green cleaning programs through its online program toolkit. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is also encouraging the use of green cleaning products through its Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program.

Several federal and state agencies have implemented green cleaning programs to reduce the potential impacts on public health and the environment.

SECTION 3.0 DEFINITIONS

3.1. Cleaning Products

For purposes of this policy, cleaning products are defined as products such as general cleaners, floor finish, floor finish strippers, and hand soap. General cleaners include all purpose cleaners, restroom/toilet cleaner, glass cleaner, and carpet cleaners. Green products are defined as those that consider the content of heavy metals, ozone depleting chlorinated compounds, organic solvents, reactivity, corrosiveness, flammability, acute and chronic toxicity, substances that can bioaccumulate, volatile organic compounds, phosphorous and favor the use of reduction in packaging, biobased products, and biodegradability upon disposal.

3.2. Green Products

The Authority shall only use cleaning products that are on the NYS OGS approved list of cleaning products (https://online2.ogs.ny.gov/greencleaning/).

SECTION 4.0 POLICY STATEMENT

4.1. Green Cleaning Management

A. The Authority's green cleaning product policy includes the following elements to reduce environmental impacts including:

1. Education for employees to understanding the benefits of using green products.

2. Evaluation of effective options so products with the least risk to health and the environment can be selected.

3. Effective purchasing to ensure the use of green products.

4. Monitoring and inspection programs to ensure consistent adoption of this policy across all Authority facilities.

4.2. Exception

An exception to this policy may be exercised upon the recommendation of the Chief Operating Officer, following a determination that the use of preferred products is not appropriate or effective.

SECTION 5.0 IMPLEMENTATION

5.1. This policy is a continuation of the Authority's overall commitment to environmental stewardship.

5.2. This policy is applicable to all divisions, facilities, management, and employees of the Authority.

5.3. To the extent the Authority has the opportunity and the choice, it shall be applicable to all contractors of the Authority while operating at the Authority facilities.

5.4. Copies of the policy will be posted to the public website and made accessible electronically through the Authority's network.

SECTION 6.0 REFERENCES

1) https://ogs.ny.gov/green-cleaning
2) https://www.epa.gov/greenerproducts/identifying-greener-cleaning-products

SECTION 7.0 RECORD OF REVISIONS

Revision Number	Revision Date	Description of Changes
1	10/27/2022	Updated to reflect removal of Green Innovation Committee; updated approval process for exceptions to policy; updated reference to resolution number and updated hyperlinks.
2	10/18/2023	Updated to reflect EPA guidance on Environmentally preferable Purchasing Program being finalized.
3	10/8/2024	Document Formatting Updated, Hyperlink Updated.
4	10/23/25	Formatting updated, original resolution number included, simplified section 2.3 into 2.2 for efficiency, EPA hyperlink updated.