

A Resolution Adopting a Green Cleaning Policy

Whereas, the county/municipality of _____ is committed to ensuring a healthy environment for its citizens, visitors, and employees; and

Whereas, the state of New Jersey has passed Executive Order No. 76 to utilize less hazardous cleaning products in State facilities and workplaces in order to minimize harmful impacts to office and custodial workers, as well as improve air quality and reduce water and air pollution; and

Whereas, green cleaning products are preferred by many public agencies because of reports showing that traditional cleaning products often contain toxic ingredients linked to asthma, birth defects, and cancer; can cause custodial and building-occupant illnesses; and can contaminate indoor air and local waterways with pollutants; and

Whereas, the Environmental Choice^M Program, utilizing products that carry the EcoLogo^M, addresses these challenges by establishing strict limits on a wide range of ingredients and hazards; and

Whereas, green cleaning practices can provide improved indoor air quality, reduce health risk from exposure, and protect the environment, while maintaining a healthy level of cleanliness and disinfection; and

Whereas, successful green cleaning programs utilizing low environmental impact cleaning products and procedures have been successfully utilized in city and state facilities throughout the country and New Jersey;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that _____
will follow a green cleaning policy; and,

Be it Further Resolved that the purchasing department of _____ shall establish this policy by this date _____, and regularly update guidelines and specifications for the purchase of environmentally sensitive cleaning products and cleaning procedures regarding municipal facilities; and

Be it Further Resolved that these products/procedures to the extent practical, must meet the minimum standards established by the Environmental Choice^M Program, or alternative standards determined by the New Jersey Department of Treasury and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to be equivalent; and

Be it Further Resolved that the purchasing department shall disseminate to all municipal departments information on these guidelines, low environmental impact product specifications and sample lists of standard cleaning products that are commonly purchased by departments; and

Be it Further Resolved that if cleaning or disinfecting products must be used that do not meet the municipal standards, proper health and safety measures must be utilized to limit human exposure and only the minimum product amounts are used and the product is disposed of properly; and

Be it Further Resolved that municipalities must transition to green cleaning products as soon as possible in a manner that avoids wasting of existing inventories, accommodates establishment of supply chains for new products, requires the training of personnel in appropriate work practices, and allows the phase-out of products and practices inconsistent with this policy. Additionally, new purchasing contracts for the purchase of such products or cleaning services shall include an appropriate requirement consistent with this policy.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____

by _____

signed _____