

Cleaning for Healthy Schools Toolkit



Did you know: 25% of chemicals in the cleaning products used in schools are toxic and contribute to poor indoor air quality, smog, cancer, asthma, and other diseases?

Did you know that there is a better way to clean?

The Cleaning for Healthy Schools Toolkit will show you how! The Toolkit has easy-to-use learning modules designed to introduce all audiences to the concept of green cleaning and Cleaning for Healthy Schools. The Toolkit is an open-source, industry-free, customizable, comprehensive program to safeguard human health, reduce exposures to chemicals, and cost-effectively improve the performance of cleaning programs.

Who should use the Toolkit?

Agencies, school districts, school facility directors, employees/unions, parents, health, environment, and community-based groups can adapt the Toolkit contents for their region or membership and train others on green cleaning:

- General audience presentations to state or community groups or coalitions working to change chemical policy at the local or state level on toxics in the school environment
- Workshops for schools and school employees who are interested in green cleaning and a Cleaning for Healthy Schools Program
- Community meetings to introduce parents, school staff, and others to the concepts and benefits of a Cleaning for Healthy Schools Program

Why should you use the Toolkit?

The health of everyone in school is at risk from chemicals in cleaning products—*custodians, children, teachers, nurses, principals*. They contribute to air and water pollution and to climate change. Many schools are finding that using green cleaning products and advanced practices can save money, reduce absenteeism, and improve staff and student health. A growing number of states and cities, including New York State and Illinois, are requiring schools to follow “green” cleaning practices.

Understand the benefits and how to implement a Cleaning for Healthy Schools Program - Learn about strategies to change chemical policy - Build skills to understand chemical hazards and safer alternatives - Be able to train and/or motivate your peers to move policy and local practices

Visit www.cleaningforhealthyschools.org to learn more about green cleaning in schools, register for training, or to download your own customizable presentations.



**National Collaborative Work Group on
Green Cleaning and Chemical Policy Reform in Schools**