

The IGGCC completed the guidelines in February 2008, which are posted at www.standingupforillinois.org/uploads/GreenCleanFinalGuidelines.pdf.

The Guidelines set a series of **mandatory** and **recommended** actions designed to give Illinois schools clear direction in purchasing and using green cleaning products as well as implementing a green cleaning program, as required by the Act. The mandatory provisions became effective May 9, 2008.

Mandatory Provisions. The mandatory provisions cover the following product categories:

- ▶ bathroom cleaners;
- ▶ carpet cleaners;
- ▶ general purpose and hard floor surface cleaners;
- ▶ glass, window and mirror cleaners;
- ▶ hand cleaners and hand soaps; and
- ▶ paper products.

In regard to the cleaning product formulations in the aforementioned categories, schools may comply with the Act by using products that are certified / recognized by:

- ▶ Green Seal;
- ▶ U.S. EPA Design for the Environment; and
- ▶ Environmental Choice EcoLogo Program.

For janitorial paper products, schools are deemed in compliance with the Illinois law if they use products that comply with the U.S. EPA Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Commercial and Industrial Sanitary Tissue, or which are certified by Green Seal or EcoLogo.

If their products are not certified by these entities, companies may “self-certify” that their products meet or exceed the referenced eco-label program requirements.

Recommended Provisions. The Illinois Guidelines also set recommended or voluntary green cleaning procurement guidance and cleaning practices, which may be implemented individually or as a collective policy at the discretion of schools.

The recommendations address product categories such as air fresheners, bathroom and facial tissues, chrome cleaners and polishes, degreasers, disinfectants and sanitizers, floor care products, graffiti removers, and plastic bags. The recommended section also addresses powered cleaning equipment and provides “best practices” for implementing a green cleaning program.

IOWA. Iowa law directs all public school districts to conduct an evaluation and assessment regarding implementation of an environmentally preferable cleaning policy. Following the assessment, by July 1, 2012 all school districts are required to purchase only cleaning and maintenance products identified by the Iowa Department of Administrative Services (DAS) as environmentally preferable or products that meet nationally recognized standards. Similar to D.C., the law allows districts to deplete existing cleaning supplies and implement the new purchasing policy in the following year.

DAS must provide information on its website regarding environmentally preferable cleaning and maintenance

products to be used by school districts. The department is also authorized to provide information regarding other nationally recognized standards for cleaning and maintenance products. DAS posted on its website information about green cleaning and about third-party product certification programs, including links to organizations such as EcoLogo, Green Seal, the U.S. EPA’s Design for the Environment (DfE) program, and the Responsible Purchasing Network.

A school district may opt out of compliance with the green cleaning requirements with the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the board of directors of the school district. Districts that opt out must notify the state Department of Education.

MAINE. Maine law requires the state to encourage schools to use environmentally preferable cleaners by compiling a list of cleaning products that have been certified as meeting “health-based criteria for safety and efficacy” by a third party independent agency such as Green Seal and to distribute that list to every school administrative unit in the state.

The state must also compile a list of disinfectants that have been evaluated using criteria established by the Division of Purchases or other acceptable criteria for environmentally preferred janitorial products and registered by the Board of Pesticides Control.

A complete list of green cleaners and disinfectants compiled by Maine is posted online at www.maine.gov/education/const/chem/green_cleaning_prod_list.xls. It is important to note that the list includes cleaning products certified by Green Seal and