



University Policy: Green Cleaning

Policy Category: Sustainability

Subject: Cleaning

Office Responsible for Review of this Policy: Sustainability

Procedures: [Appendix A – Green Cleaning Program](#)

Related University Policies: American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment; Green Building Policy; Sustainable Purchasing Policy; Talloires Declaration; Zero Waste Policy

I. SCOPE

This policy applies to all cleaning products, equipment and practices conducted or contracted by the University.

II. POLICY STATEMENT

Consistent with American University’s strategic goal to “Act on our values through Social Responsibility and ... an active pursuit of sustainability,” and in accordance with the sustainability policies referenced above, the purpose of this policy is to advance social responsibility and environmental sustainability by utilizing cleaning products and practices designed to: improve energy, water, and material efficiency; utilize renewable materials; enable the University to attain carbon-neutrality or net positive renewable energy production; eliminate waste, especially hazardous materials; enhance the physical campus environment; and protect and enhance the health of the University community.

III. DEFINITIONS

Green Cleaning: the use of cleaning products and practices with less environmental impact than conventional products and practices.

US Green Building Council (USGBC) LEED Standard: is a Washington, D.C.-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to promoting cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings through the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green building certification program. LEED is a voluntary, consensus-based national rating system for buildings designed, constructed and operated for improved environmental and human health performance, addressing all building types, and emphasizing state-of-the-art strategies in: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials and resources selection, and indoor environmental quality.

IV. POLICY

The University will conduct and contract cleaning services to be consistent with the requirements of the United States Green Building Council (USGBC), Leadership in Environmental Engineering and Design standards, as summarized in Appendix A – Green Cleaning Program.

V. FREQUENCY OF REVIEW AND UPDATE

Any party affected by this Policy may initiate review and update at any time. The Office of Sustainability will initiative review, and update if necessary, not more than three years from the effective date, or date of last review or update, whichever is most recent.

VI. EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPROVAL

This Policy is considered effective when signed by the officers listed below.

Conrad H. Kuman

President

[Signature]

Vice President

1/14/10

Date approved