



# Green Cleaning

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at

## Rolla Public Schools

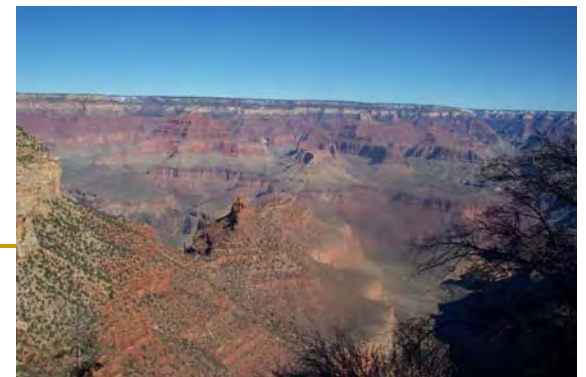
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“Cleaning to protect health  
without harming the  
environment.”

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# Indoor Air Quality

- We spend 90% of our time indoors
- Indoor air can be 2-5 times as bad as outdoor air
- Tight buildings plus air conditioning=
  - Little or no fresh air
  - Concentration of contaminants



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## Robert Kluge...

I work for Marketing Solutions Group, Inc., based out of Chicago, IL. I have worked in the sanitary supply industry for 20 plus years covering the Midwest region.

About 10 years ago I had the pleasure of working with Rolla Public Schools. To my surprise, I couldn't believe how progressive the school system was as far as educating custodians and thinking about the environment ...when that wasn't even cool yet.



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- That same thought process has continued forward in the last decade. RPS is in my ranking, the best district in my region for the "Green Cleaning Movement," as well as providing ongoing education to all custodians.
  - I use this district's success in my travels and tell all other districts to benchmark, or copy Rolla's plan. Other districts around the country should be so lucky as to have such a well oiled machine in place.

*Robert Kluge*

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# The Greening of Custodial Services at RPS

- We started “green cleaning” in 1998 with Envirox chemicals. We have been adding new technology as it has become available.
- Now 11 years later, there is a Missouri Law with Green Cleaning Guidelines to follow.\*
- All new equipment, chemicals and procedures are being designed around the very concepts we have been intergrading.

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\* <http://dese.mo.gov/divadm/govern/documents/GreenCleanMemo.pdf>

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## How We Got Here

- Custodial handbook and training video was created in 1999.
  - Workshops hosted through New System on a bi-yearly basis.
  - 2004 RHS implements new Green Cleaning procedures.
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# The Vision of Green Cleaning at RPS since 2005

- Reduce water consumption
  - Reduce accidents to students and staff
    - Increase security
    - Improve indoor air quality for students and faculty
  - Increase employee job performance
    - Increase life of fixtures
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# Program Benefits

- Group ownership of the facility.
  - Cut equipment and supply costs in half.
  - Eliminated most needs for a substitute.
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## Reduction of Water Consumption at RHS

- Before we piloted our program our nightly average was 254 gallons of water.
  - We reduced that to 98 gallons in 05'-06'
  - In 2008-2009 we have reduced that to 48 gallons per night.
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## Building Operation Expenditures per student/certified staff

- 2006-2007
- \$ .21 on supplies, chemicals, equipment and repairs
- 2007-2008
- \$ .16 on supplies, chemicals, equipment and repairs

2008-2009 we are spending \$ 5.05 on labor  
\$ .16 on supplies

97% of custodial budget is spent on labor  
3% on supplies, chemicals and equipment

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## How we are controlling indoor air quality

- All vacuum equipment uses true HEPA.
  - All chemicals are Green with natural odors.
  - Using low dust pads.
  - Proper matting in facilities.
  - Pesticides are professionally administered.
  - Effective rodent management.
  - Maintenance conducts routine filter changes on air units.
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# Green in other department areas

- Technology Department – recycles computers and monitors as well as printer cartridges.
  - RHS stucco- recycle paper, plastic, aluminum, batteries, and used cell phones.
  - Custodial & Maintenance- recycles light bulbs and ballast along with cardboard.
  - RHS and other schools in the district, have received many recycling grants from Department of Natural Resources over the last five years. Totaling \$35,855
  - The Science Department, through Brewer Science, has a hazardous chemical pickup and disposal program.
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# Improvement Areas

- Continue to open RPS custodial training to outside districts.
  - Encourage attendance by RPS principals and staff at custodial training.
  - Reduction of “non-green” products brought in from outside RPS purchasing.
  - Green Practices & Initiatives adopted by other departments.
  - Add green information about our district to the RPS website.
  - New building sites to achieve LEED accreditation.
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# Recommendations

- Rolla Public Schools will continue to adopt the vision and goals we have implemented in the custodial department.
  - Benefits to the district would be great, not only for budgets but for the students, staff and visitors health when in the RPS facilities.
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We should maintain a healthy educational setting through improved systems and communications, while reducing the potential for negative impacts on custodial staff and occupants.

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