

Summary of Vermont's Regulations of Chemicals in Cleaning Products

Website: <http://www.bgs.state.vt.us/PCA/epp/index.htm>

Summary

1. Environmental, Safety and Health Criteria for Custodial Products. The State of Vermont has established environmental and safety and health specifications for custodial cleaning products and service contracts that it includes as part of its request for proposal. The paragraphs below summarize these criteria.

2. Certification of Mandatory Product Criteria. Bidders must submit documentation that provides proof that all ingredients in the cleaning products adhere to the criteria specified below. Required documentation includes a completed Manufacturer's Product Assessment Tool and an MSDS.

3. Critical Product Exclusion Criteria. The following criteria are mandatory for green cleaning products.

- No persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic chemicals
 - No ingredient shall be on EPA's Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III, Section 313 list of Toxic Release Inventory Chemicals
 - No product shall contain alkylphenol ethoxylates above trace amounts
- No carcinogens, mutagens and teratogens
- Products shall not contain the following substances beyond trace amounts:
 - Paradichlorobenzene (CAS 106-46-7)
 - 1,4-dioxane (CAS 123-91-1)
 - Sodium hypochlorite (CAS 7681-52-9)
 - Nitrilotriacetic acid (CAS 139-13-9)
 - Sodium ethylenediamine tetraacetic acid (CAS 60-00-4)
- No ozone depleting compounds
- No product shall contain VOCs in concentrations that are equal to or greater than 5% of the weight of the product
- No product, rendered unusable due to circumstances such as expired shelf life or as cleanup from a spill, shall contain compounds that would result in their designation as a hazardous waste as defined in the Vermont Hazardous Waste Management Regulations. Criteria included in this designation include:
 - Inclusion of discarded chemical product list or dangerous waste source list
 - Flashpoint of less than 140°F
 - pH of less than 2.0 or greater or than or equal to 12.5
 - Reactive

- Fails the Toxic Characteristics Leaching Procedure
 - Wastes specifically designated for control
- No phosphate or phosphonates in excess of a trace quantity
- No products shall be combination cleaner-disinfectants

4. Non-Critical Product Criteria. Vermont also sets forth a set of non-critical product criteria for which a score is assigned based on the products characteristics in relation to these criteria, described below:

- Vapor pressure of the most volatile product constituent present in the product in excess of 5% by weight
- Inhalation toxicity
- Ingestion toxicity
- pH
- VOC content
- Skin absorption
- Combustibility
- Presence of fragrance and dyes
- Biodegradability
- Aquatic toxicity
- Bio-based