



## Daily Floor Care

*By Dave Schell*

Daily floor care is the largest and one of the most important tasks we perform at Scarlet & Gray. Each school day we are responsible for almost 3 million square feet of flooring. The purpose of cleaning a floor is to remove all dirt and debris. By doing this we improve appearance, prolong

the life of the floor, make it safer and less slippery, and provide a healthier environment by removing dust and dirt on which bacteria live.

We perform this process with either a dust mop or a back pack vacuum. When dust mopping, always start with a clean dust mop. Vacuum off the dust mop head at least every other day. One side of the dust mop should always be the leading edge when dust mopping.

When back packing, empty or change the bag on a regular basis. Also, make sure the vacuum head and extension cord are in good condition.

No matter which method you use, you must vacuum or dust mop every inch of the floor, not just the visible dirt. When you just pick up what you see, you leave behind dust and dirt that quickly wears the floor finish. Being methodical and thorough in your cleaning is key.

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### Safety tips

Wet floor signs are more important than ever in the winter.



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

### Chemical Usage

*By Mark Cappel*

Proper chemical use is an important part of any cleaning program. First is making sure that you use the correct product for the job. For example, use a neutral cleaner on floor finish, not a degreaser. Also, use a disinfectant on restroom fixtures, not a glass cleaner.

Secondly, use each product in the proper proportion. Follow the dilution instructions on the label and ask for assistance if you are unsure of the proper measurement.

Thirdly, follow the instructions in the SOP's. Disinfectants require dwell time to work at their maximum effectiveness. Another example is that

green cleaning experts recommend using a chemical that does not require dwell time. Spray it directly onto your rag instead of onto the surface you are cleaning. This cuts down on overspray and the amount of chemical that becomes airborne.

There are other factors to remember when using cleaning products. Always use clean rags and wet mops. Contaminated ones reduce a chemical's effectiveness. When damp mopping use the appropriate amount of water in your bucket and change mop water frequently. When auto scrubbing make sure the pad is always clean and

in good condition.

Lastly, storage of chemicals is also very important. Never store chemicals on hot water heaters, electric panels, furnaces, etc. Always make sure all bottles are properly labeled. When you are disposing of a chemical it is important to follow the direction on the label or MSDS. According to manufacturers, all products are able to be flushed down the drain. However, be sure to flush the line with cold water after doing so.

As with anything, remember, safety first.

Mark

