

The unique reporter

Volume 12, issue 10

October 2009

Inside this issue:

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Article of the Month | 2 |
| Employee of the Month | 3 |
| Subcontractor Spotlight | 4 |
| Welcome Aboard | 5 |
| Site Spotlight | 5 |
| Community Involvement | 6 |
| Quote of the Month | 6 |
| Birthdays | 7 |
| Announcements | 7 |
| Helping Hand | 8 |



If We Don't Take Care of Our Customers, Someone Else Will...

Article of the Month...

Traditional Cleaning vs. Green Cleaning—Part 2 Restroom Cleaning

Traditional Cleaning:

If you're cleaning restrooms the traditional way, you're probably using disinfectant cleaners, glass cleaners,



stainless steel cleaners, and acid bowl cleaners. Although these products do a good job of cleaning, they can be toxic to the environment and to the people who use them. In addition, many stainless steel cleaners are made from petroleum products, which is not a renewable resource, so using a product that is water based would be a "greener" alternative. Many companies who clean in the traditional way also use white cotton cloths for cleaning surfaces. When using cotton cloths, you take a chance that your employees will cross-contaminate surfaces as they move from one area to the next. Cleaning restroom floors in



the traditional way includes sweeping and mopping with a broom or dust mop, and then using string mop-heads and mop buckets to



clean the floors.

Green Cleaning:

When you clean restrooms using environmentally friendly products, tools and methods, you use safer cleaning products, and more efficient tools and cleaning systems. First, consider switching to products that are safer for the environment, aquatic life and human life. Check with your local janitorial distributor, as they should

carry at least one environmentally friendly product line. Restroom cleaning involves infecting a number of different surfaces, so you want to avoid cross-contaminating surfaces. The best way to do this is to use color-coded microfiber cloths. Each color is used for a particular task.

For example:

- Blue - mirrors and bright work
- Yellow - sinks and countertops
- Red - toilets and urinals



Cleaning floors using green cleaning equipment and methods means you'll use a back pack vacuum to vacuum the floor, rather than sweeping, which spreads soil around and causes dust to become airborne.

Mopping floors using green cleaning equipment and methods means you'll use a microfiber mop instead of the traditional mop and bucket. Microfiber mops are lighter weight, use less water, and are able to trap more soil in the fibers than traditional mops. In medical facilities, you can quickly switch mop heads from room to room to



avoid cross contamination.

Conclusion:

As you can see, making a few simple changes in chemicals, equipment and cleaning methods can make a big impact. Not only will you be making a contribution to protecting the environment, but you'll also be protecting your employees from toxic chemicals and outdated equipment that can cause unnecessary injuries.



Copyright (c) The Janitorial Store (TM)

Employee of the Month...

Christina Smith

Congratulations

Christina Smith has been chosen as the Employee of the Month for October. Cecil Norwood, Quality Control Manager, had this to say about Christina, "She has operated the four locations in Oregon alone for the past few weeks since 10.01.09. She has traveled to Detroit, OR which is about an hour and a half from the other locations daily. She uses her out of pocket money to pay for gas when the debit card runs out n and waits for repayment to arrive without complaint. She is dependable, responsible, and eager to go above and beyond the call of her job duties. She empties the

Vaults and picks up trash along the highway. She completes the janitorial duties and also does the periodic

tasks including the stripping and waxing alone. She was helpful in locating a new employee and suggested ways to advertise. She nor her employees have ever had a complaint from any activities of the operation. There has never been a negative word spoken to me on my visit from anyone at the four locations she services. She continues to make a tremendous contribution to our organization. I believe she deserves the employee of the month." Thank you, Christina, for a job well done.

Keep up the great work!!



Jim Hurley (VA Myrtle Beach

Subcontractor Spotlight...

Flonnory Lawn Services

The saying goes that hard work and determination eventually pay off. That certainly can be said about Flonnory Lawn Services. What began as a small lawn care business has grown into a fruitful business which is now servicing the U.S. Army Reserve Command or USARC# 1 in Columbus, GA.

Cottrell Flonnory Jr., the owner of Flonnory Lawn Services, always loved the outdoors. So, in 1997, he established Flonnory Lawn Services as a means to provide lawn care services to residential and commercial customers in Columbus and neighboring areas. Today, Flonnory Lawn Services has

flourished into a business that provides detailed lawn care and maintenance for its thriving customer base. They specialize in fertilizer and weed control as well as plant and flower design and sod installation. Cottrell and his crew take pride in their work and try to educate their customers on the care of their lawn and plants. They are a dependable team who believe in doing a professional job each and every time they service a lawn.

Cottrell is no stranger to service. He served in the United States Army for 20 years, retiring in December 1995. In his spare time, his favorite hobby is playing the bass gui-

tar. Through the years, he has played with several local Blues and jazz bands and now lends his musical talents exclusively to his church. Other hobbies Cottrell enjoys are fishing and training/playing with his three Rottweilers. Cottrell and his crew have been solid team players with UCS for two years and we are proud to spotlight his company.



Welcome Aboard...

teamwork



Danica Courtney
Detroit Dam, OR
Big Cliff Dam, OR



John Ellis
NC Sites



Delrita Lawrence
Myrtle Beach Recruiting
Georgetown Recruiting

Site Spotlight...

VA Memphis (North & South Clinics)

We are servicing two VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinics in Memphis, TN. Both facilities offer behavioral health services including individual, group and family counseling. Both also offer nutritional education and smoking cessation, but the south clinic offers group therapy for returning combat veterans.



Memphis South Clinic



Memphis North Clinic

If We Don't Take Care of Our Customers, Someone Else Will...

Community Involvement...

Unique Cleaning Service donated money to a great cause. We donated to the Baby & I Foundation. The Baby & I Foundation helps to reduce the risks of terminated pregnancies and the number of infants who enter the foster care system each year. They provide assistance to economically at-risk expectant mothers and their babies. Some of the services that are provided are

- Pre and post natal services
- Healthy start kits
- CPR certification
- Vocational and life skills training

Their programs offer encouragement for improving the current situations and health of expectant mothers and their unborn babies.



Quote of the Month...

“The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack in will.”

—Vince Lombardi

November Birthdays

11/01: Simon Flores

11/02: Alex Wells

11/03: Joseph Appah

11/06: David Faison

11/13: Florence Ellison

11/19: Raymundo Villegas

11/23: Randy Rozier

11/25: Gladys Moreno

11/27: Natalya Olifirovskaya



Announcements

ATTENTION EMPLOYEES...

- If you forget to clock in/ out, please be sure to contact your site supervisor and/ or your Quality Control Manager immediately so that it can be corrected.

Helping Hand...

How to Recycle (Almost) Anything

Make the garbage can your last resort. You can dump computers, batteries, and other bulky stuff — guilt free!

You probably sort paper, plastic, and household metal on a daily basis — but what about the tough stuff?

There are reasons to go beyond the usual recycling: Unwieldy household toss-outs take up tons of space in landfills. Worse, items such as computers and cell phones leach hazardous materials like mercury and lead into nearby water supplies. Now, thanks to environmental groups, retailers, and municipalities nationwide, doing the right thing is a lot easier. Here's how.

Computers

Give to a charity. If you have a computer or a component that still works, contact Share the Technology



(www.sharetechnology.org), which will match you with a nonprofit organization that needs equipment. If the computer isn't working,

take it to a recycling center or a traveling electronics recycling fair. To locate a center in your area or to find out when a fair will visit your city, go to the Web site for Earth 911 (www.earth911.org), click on Electronics, and put in your zip code.

Cell phones

National

programs like

Donate

a Phone and Collective Good accept used phones and resell them, giving the proceeds to charities. To find links to these and other groups, visit Earth 911's Web site.



Printer ink cartridges

Many branches of OfficeMax, Staples, and other office-

supply stores have set up on-site drop-off recycling bins. Check your local stores.



Batteries

Most municipal col-



lection centers allow you to bring in your used batteries for recycling and disposal. If you're a heavy battery user, consider switching to rechargeables, which also save you money. But even these batteries eventually wear out. When they do, they need to be disposed of responsibly (at a Radio Shack drop-off center, for instance).

Old clothes and linens

Your best bet is a local Salvation Army or Goodwill. Anything in poor



condition will be made into



rags. And you'll get a tax write-off. Just be sure to ask for a receipt.