

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2 OF 2006

WHEREAS, while proper sanitation and cleaning are necessary components of a healthy building environment, many cleaning products contain harmful chemicals that contaminate the environment and endanger human health; and

WHEREAS, there are effective cleaning products on the market which have positive environmental attributes such as biodegradability; low toxicity; low volatile organic compound content; reduced packaging; and low life-cycle energy use; and

WHEREAS, utilizing these less hazardous cleaning products in County workplaces and facilities can minimize the harmful impacts to office and custodial workers, as well as other occupants of County facilities; improve indoor air quality; and reduce water and ambient air pollution; and

WHEREAS, by Executive Order No. 3-2005, I implemented the Environmentally Preferable Products Purchasing Program, which favors the procurement of a broad range of products provided that they are more environmentally-sound and/or energy-efficient than other competing products, to the extent feasible under all applicable laws, rules, and regulations; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of my environmental protection policies and practices, and in order to best protect the health and safety of all County employees and visitors, I have determined that it is in the best interests of the County to supplement the policy set forth in Executive Order No. 3-2005 in order to require specific application of the existing Environmentally Preferable Products Purchasing Program to the cleaning products utilized in County workplaces and facilities.

NOW THEREFORE, I, ANDREW J. SPANO, County Executive of the County of Westchester, in light of the aforementioned and in accordance with my statutory duties, do hereby order that:

- I. “Environmentally Preferable Cleaning Products” shall mean those cleaning products that reduce or minimize the risks of harmful effects to employees, custodial workers, visitors and other building occupants through biodegradability; low toxicity; low volatile organic compound content; reduced packaging; and low life-cycle energy use, while maintaining a level of effectiveness which ensures the protection of public health and safety.
- II. Wherever the price is reasonably competitive and the quality adequate for the purpose intended, Environmentally Preferable Cleaning Products shall be purchased and utilized in County workplaces and facilities, in accordance with the Environmentally Preferable Products Purchasing Program policy and procedures as set forth in Executive Order No. 3-2005.

III. The transition to Environmentally Preferable Cleaning Products, where feasible, shall occur as soon as possible in a manner that avoids wasting of existing inventories; accommodates establishment of supply chains for new products; enables the training of personnel in appropriate work methods; and allows the phase-out of products and practices inconsistent with this Order.

IV. This Executive Order shall take effect on the date hereof, and shall remain in effect until otherwise superseded, repealed, modified or revoked.

ANDREW J. SPANO
County Executive

Dated: _____, 2006
White Plains, New York