For Maintenance and Custodians

Use Cleaning Products Safely

Cleaning products are chemicals, and some may be hazardous.
Read the label before using any cleaning product. Follow all label instructions.
Some cleaning products may require gloves or other PPE.
Be extra careful if the label says Caution, Warning, Danger, or Poison.
Check the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for additional information.
Look for a less hazardous product that will do the same job.

Cleaning products require careful use.
Corrosive cleaners can burn skin or eyes and harm internal organs. Some may cause skin irritations like rashes or dermatitis. Others may cause breathing difficulties or lung irritation.
Reactive chemicals can burn, explode, or release dangerous vapors if combined with other substances.
Never mix two cleaners—the reaction may be violent. For example, never mix bleach with ammonia—it can produce deadly vapors.

Practice safe work habits
Wear all recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves and eye protection.
Inspect PPE before each use to be sure it’s in good condition and fits well.
Remove and dispose of PPE carefully so you don’t spread contamination.
Wash your hands thoroughly after use. Always wash before eating, drinking, smoking, applying makeup, or using the toilet.
Follow instructions if they say to dilute a cleaner.
Use all cleaning products where there is good ventilation.
Keep containers closed when not in use and store properly where children cannot reach them.

Take immediate action if you are accidentally overexposed.
Check the label or SDS for first-aid treatment.
For skin contact wash immediately and remove any contaminated clothing.
If you feel faint or have difficulty breathing, get to fresh air at once.
If your eyes are splashed, flush them with water for at least 15 minutes.
Follow label directions if you should accidentally swallow any cleaner.
Seek medical attention if needed.