

WONDER MAKERS ENVIRONMENTAL

DECEMBER 2013 E-NEWSLETTER

This is Going to be Big!

Oftentimes we are involved in activities that help us with our day-to-day responsibilities but where the scope is limited to a specific client or situation. However, every once in a while you or I participate in something that has the potential to result in dramatic change for the betterment of an untold number of people. I believe this is the case with Wonder Makers' involvement in a newly released standard related to cleaning of educational facilities.

The U.S. Department of Education's latest figures show that there are over 132,000 schools in the United States, educating over 55.5 million students in grades K-12. For years now, more and more scientific research has been piling up, showing that proper cleaning inside buildings is not only good for visual appearances but also creates a healthy environment. Understanding this, Wonder Makers has implemented a cleaning-for-health regimen in our office facility for the past seven years and has been offering classes in which we explain the basic concepts of cleaning that help to improve the indoor environment. We have been preaching about reports like one from the Centers for Disease Control that definitively proved that a typical string mop and bucket arrangement is very effective at spreading germs. The CDC (and many others) noted that:

Bucket solutions become contaminated almost immediately during cleaning, and continued use of the solution transfers increasing numbers of microorganisms to each subsequent surface to be cleaned. Another source of contamination in the cleaning process is the cleaning cloth or mop head, especially if left soaking in dirty cleaning solutions.

In order to support educational efforts in this important arena we have participated with ISSA —The Worldwide Cleaning Industry Association. We were honored to serve as one of the public reviewers for their new document, the Clean Standard: K-12 (**see the entire document on our website: Wondermakers.com/Articles/CleaningforHealth**). This document is revolutionary because an overwhelming body of evidence shows that cleaning service personnel—no matter how well trained—cannot visually ascertain a surface's cleanliness: only science-based cleaning can make that determination. As such, the standard explains how to conduct building audits using ATP meters, which identify levels of biological contamination on surfaces.

Although many are sure to react negatively because this document requires some real change in how we view the entire cleaning process, that fear of change cannot push aside the documented benefits of a better cleaning process for schools: fewer illnesses, lower rates of absenteeism, and even increased test scores. While it may take some time, I am confident that in the future people will look back at this transition the same way we now view Florence Nightingale's suggestion that doctors keep hospitals clean in order to save patients; it is obviously the right thing to do.

Do not hesitate to contact us for more information about cleaning for health, the Clean Standard: K-12, or training and certification related to the new standard.

TRAINING SCHEDULE

Mold Remediation Technician

January 14-16: Kalamazoo, MI

May 13-15: Kalamazoo, MI

Mold Remediation Supervisor

February 25-26: Kalamazoo, MI

Asbestos Refreshers

December 17-19, 2013:

Kalamazoo, MI

For complete schedule see:

WonderMakers.com/Education/CourseCalendar

Did You Know?

Wonder Makers Environmental offers over a dozen different training courses. Some examples of the range of classes we offer in addition to the popular mold remediation classes:

- Improving the Environment for Mold-Sensitized Individuals
- Basics of Infection Control for Restoration Contractors Working in Health Facilities (ICRA)
- Meth Lab Clean-Up
- State of Michigan Asbestos Refreshers

Visit WonderMakers.com/Education to see course descriptions for all the classes that are available in your area or at our facility.

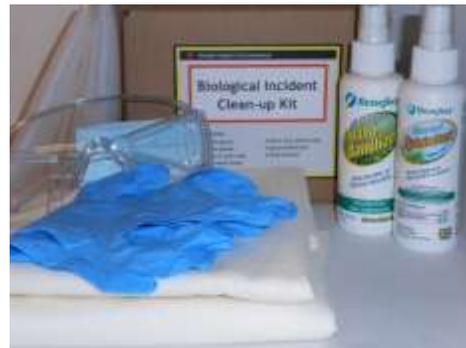
Featured Product:

#75 Biological Incident Clean-up Kit - \$30.00

These single use kits are for teachers, office staff, custodians and others who may have to address incidents such as the clean-up of minor to moderate spills of vomit, urine and feces on a non-routine basis. The items in this kit have been carefully chosen to offer protection to the wearer, ease of use, thorough disinfecting and easy disposal.

Contents of Biological Incident Clean-up Kit:

- Nitrile gloves
- Safety glasses
- Surgical style mask
- Disposable towels
- Heavy duty plastic bags
- Spray disinfectant
- Hand sanitizer
- Clean-up instructions



Order online at WonderMakers.com/Products or call 888-382-4154.

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