

Introducing Willow Valley's Own Green Clean Team

Recently the term “Green” has been used to communicate efforts to use more environmentally friendly practices. WVRC Housekeeping Team Leaders attended a Pennsylvania Forum on Green Cleaning. Here are a few green facts learned at that event:

- 4.5 billion pounds of paper are used in cleaning nationwide every year. Every time unrecycled paper is utilized, a tree is cut down.
- 8 million pounds of chemicals are used nationally on an annual basis. Every time a non-biodegradable chemical is used, it creates an environmental impact.
- By eliminating paper and chemical waste, we make a huge impact on the environment, save labor expenses, and reduce trash.

Willow Valley Retirement Housekeeping is committed to ongoing efforts to pursue “Green,” environmentally responsible, high quality products and processes. Here are a few of the changes they have made so far:

Folded towels replaced with high density paper rolls Housekeeping is testing new high density roll towels in Team Member utility areas, to replace cut folded towels. This change reduces waste, cost, and labor.

Micro fiber cloths now used to clean windows These split fibers collect and hold increased amounts of dust, dirt and allergens cut bacteria levels by as much as 99% which reduces cross-contamination. Using micro fiber allows housekeeping to use 95% less chemicals and water.

Team Members trained to spray chemicals into cleaning cloths and not directly into the environment.

Entryway walk-off carpet systems are being replaced in buildings during renovation to maintain a healthy interior environment This results in less dirt which means less sweeping, mopping, and



vacuuming. Less water and energy are expended and fewer chemicals and toxins fill the air.

WVRC is always seeking new ways to increase the use of items made from recyclable products and the housekeeping and floor care departments are committed to using “green” environmentally responsible high quality products and processes.