

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Green Seal Launches Hand Sanitizer Certification

Standard verifies safer, effective ingredients amid spate of toxic hand sanitizers

Washington, DC -- Green Seal, the nation's leading non-profit authority on safer and more sustainable cleaning and facility care products, announced today that it is now certifying alcohol-based hand sanitizers that meet the highest standard for health and safety in the marketplace amid growing consumer concern about toxic products.

With the COVID-19 pandemic spurring many first-time producers to enter the market, the FDA has warned consumers to avoid more than [200 hand sanitizer products](#) because of incorrect formulations and high levels of hazardous ingredients including methanol (wood alcohol) and the contaminant 1-propanol. Meanwhile, even when properly formulated, hand sanitizers available on the U.S. market can include hazardous ingredients linked to cancer, allergies, skin and eye irritation and other harmful health effects – even if they have an ecolabel.

Green Seal's new hand sanitizer certification standard, created with input from public health and industry experts, screens 100% of the product formula for carcinogens, reproductive toxins, skin irritants, phthalates, parabens and contaminants. All Green Seal-certified products must meet strict performance testing requirements to ensure effectiveness.

“There is a critical market gap right now where buyers know to beware of toxic or ineffective hand sanitizers but are hard-pressed to quickly and easily identify safer options,” said Green Seal CEO Doug Gatlin. “Green Seal certification gives consumers, purchasers and facility managers confidence that they are buying a hand sanitizer that has been independently verified to the highest standard for health, safety and effectiveness.”

Independent verification by a trusted authority

Green Seal's hand sanitizer certification standard is the non-profit's latest initiative to harness its expertise to provide products, services and guidance that help protect people from both COVID-19 and negative health impacts from toxic chemicals.

- Green Seal [Guidelines for Safer Cleaning and Disinfection](#) for schools and workplaces have been adopted by commercial cleaning companies servicing more than 1 billion square feet of space.
- SEIU 32BJ, the largest union of property service workers in the U.S., has [partnered](#) with Green Seal on COVID-19 training for its members.
- More than 30,000 Green Seal certified products are used in offices, schools and homes each day, including cleaning products and hand soaps critical to de-contaminating buildings and protecting people.

To learn more about Green Seal's hand sanitizer leadership standard and Green Seal-certified products, visit www.greenseal.org/hand-sanitizer

ABOUT GREEN SEAL, INC.

Green Seal® is a global nonprofit organization with a mission to transform the economy for a healthier, greener world. Since 1989, Green Seal has applied rigorous standards for health, environmental sustainability and product performance to its certification programs to empower better purchasing decisions. Green Seal has certified thousands of products, services and spaces from hundreds of leading companies including 3M, Ecolab, Georgia-Pacific, Hilton, Westin, Marriott and Staples, and is specified by countless schools, government agencies, businesses and institutions. Today, the Green Seal certification mark is a universal symbol that a product or service meets the highest benchmark of health and environmental leadership. Visit GreenSeal.org or connect with Green Seal on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

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