WHAT GREEN SEAL CERTIFIES

Green Seal’s leadership standard means a specialty cleaning product is verified as safer for human health and the environment compared to similar products while delivering uncompromising performance.

PERFORMANCE OF GREEN

Our standard ensures the product performs for its intended use. All Green Seal-certified products must demonstrate an effective level of cleaning performance via an objective, scientifically validated method conducted under controlled and reproducible laboratory conditions. Certain product types must meet performance thresholds following approved ASTM or Consumer Specialty Products Association methods, or demonstrate they perform just as well or better than a nationally recognized or market-leading product.

SCIENCE OF GREEN - HEALTH

**RESTRICIONS TO PREVENT ADVERSE HEALTH EFFECTS**

- **Acute Toxicity (Oral)**: LD50 > 5,000 mg/kg
- **Acute Toxicity (Inhalation)**: LC50 > 20,000 ppmV at 1 hour
- **Dermal Toxicity (Skin)**: LD50 > 2,000mg/kg
- **Skin and Eye Damage**: pH of > 2.0 but less than 11.5; Must not be corrosive to skin or eyes
- **Skin Sensitization**: Must not be a skin sensitizer
- **Skin Absorption**: Sum of ingredients with skin notations restricted to <1%
- **Asthmagens**: Prohibited above 100ppm (separate criteria for enzymes)
- **Respiratory Sensitizers**: Prohibited above 100ppm
- **Ozone Depleting Compounds**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)**: Content < level specified in CARB or standard for product type
- **Inhalation Toxicity**: Must not cause adverse health effects following chronic inhalation exposure
- **Carcinogens**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **Mutagens**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **Reproductive Toxins**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **Neurotoxins / Systemic Toxins**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **Endocrine Disruptors**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **Alkylphenol Ethoxylates (APEO)**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **2-Butoxyethanol**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **α-Phenylphenol**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **Halogenated Organic Solvents**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **Triclosan**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **Polycyclic Musks**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **Nitro-musks**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **Toxic Release Inventory Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxic Chemicals**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **Colorants**: Cannot contain intentionally added heavy metals
- **Phthalates**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level and must not be intentionally added to primary packaging
- **Bisphenol A (BPA)**: Must not be intentionally added to primary packaging
- **Chlorinated Materials**: Must not be intentionally added to primary packaging
- **Hexavalent Chromium**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level and must not be intentionally added to primary packaging
- **Lead**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level and must not be intentionally added to primary packaging
- **Mercury**: Must not be intentionally added to primary packaging
- **Selenium**: Cannot be intentionally added at any level
- **Cadmium**: Must not be intentionally added to primary packaging
- **Enzymes**: Products containing enzymes must meet additional criteria
- **Microorganisms**: Products containing microorganisms must meet additional criteria
SCIENCE OF GREEN - ENVIRONMENT

CRITERIA THAT HELP PRESERVE THE CLIMATE

Many of the standards for human health, minimizing waste and ensuring clean water also help preserve the climate:

- Content limits on volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Limit on phosphorus
- Prohibition on ozone depleting compounds
- Prohibition on halogenated organic solvents
- Reduced / Recycled packaging
- Concentrated products

RESTRICTIONS TO PREVENT ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

- Acute Toxicity to Aquatic Life
  - LC50 > 100mg/L for algae, daphnia, or fish
- Aquatic Biodegradability
  - Each organic ingredient must readily biodegrade
- Bioaccumulating Compounds
  - Prohibited above 100ppm
- Eutrophication
  - Sum of total phosphorus restricted to < 0.5%
- Optical Brighteners
  - Prohibited above 100ppm

REQUIREMENTS TO PREVENT WASTE

- Primary Packaging
  - Must be either source-reduced, recyclable, contain at least 25% post-consumer material, or be a refillable package with an effective take-back program
- Aerosol Packaging
  - Recycling programs must be available for packaging where product is sold
- Use Labeling
  - Must have detailed instructions for proper use to minimize waste
- Recycling Labelling
  - Plastic packages must be marked with the appropriate Resin Identification Code and have clear recycling instructions for disposal

A GREEN YOU CAN TRUST

All Green Seal certified products must meet industry best practices for Quality and Safety.

Our standards are referenced by the leading green building certification programs.

Learn more about our environmental leadership standards and 30,000+ certified products and services at GreenSeal.org.