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Great Western News

Winter Floor Care

“Snow, rain, slush and ice melt are certainties. So, too, is the fact that countless individuals will track these dangers into your facility daily.”

Winter can be extremely rough on floors. Snow, rain, slush and ice melt are certainties. So, too, is the fact that countless individuals will track these dangers into your facility daily. The best preventative measure a facility can employ is a matting system, but even a proper matting system can't keep all of the winter elements out. A proper winter floor-care program is a must to avoid costly expenditures down the road.

Hard surface floors are the first to be directly affected by winter weather. Ice melt

is abrasive and can harm interior floors if it's not trapped on mats or removed by cleaning. An effective way to maintain and protect floors from these dangers is by mopping or autoscrubbing frequently with a neutral floor cleaner. When mopping, it is important to change out the cleaning solution often or use a dual bucket system to separate clean and dirty water.

Carpet care is especially difficult in the winter months. The key to keeping your carpets looking their best is to

keep them as dry as possible and vacuum frequently. A deep cleaning with extra chemicals and brushing to bring the salt out of the fiber is also recommended.

It is important to remember that the winter months bring different challenges to staff and equipment. So be prepared for what the season brings and be proactive. An extra carpet cleaning now will save you time and money down the line.

Cleaning Tip:

Most modern cleaners work better when mixed with cold or luke warm water. Hot water can flash off the chemicals before they get a chance to do their job.

Green = Healthy

A recent study found that employees who move from buildings with poor indoor environmental quality to more healthful "green" buildings may reap some benefits, including less absenteeism and higher

productivity. Researchers evaluated the physical and mental health status of people who moved from traditional to green office buildings. Being absent from work for asthma, allergies, depression and

stress decreased as did the average number of work hours affected by illness per month. See your Great Western Account Managers for cost effective ways to go green.



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