

FREDERICK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, FREDERICK, MARYLAND WINS THE E.P.A. 2010 NATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

FOR INDOOR AIR QUALITY (IAQ) TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS

Each year, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awards some of the highest performing school districts in the country for their outstanding IAQ management programs. These programs consistently demonstrate a commitment to student and staff health and wellness and have proven that a proactive IAQ management program can have a positive, lasting impact on the school, the staff and students, and the entire community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FREDERICK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS ON THIS MAGNIFICENT AWARD!

Frederick County Public Schools, Frederick, Maryland has won the E.P.A. 2010 National Excellence Award for Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools. Part of the consideration for this prestigious award was their Certified Green Floor Care Program. The E.P.A. stated, "Frederick County School's Operations staff used a zero-VOC floor finish that eliminated the stripping process, reducing use of chemicals from the school facilities and the environment by 34 tons each year."

Frederick County

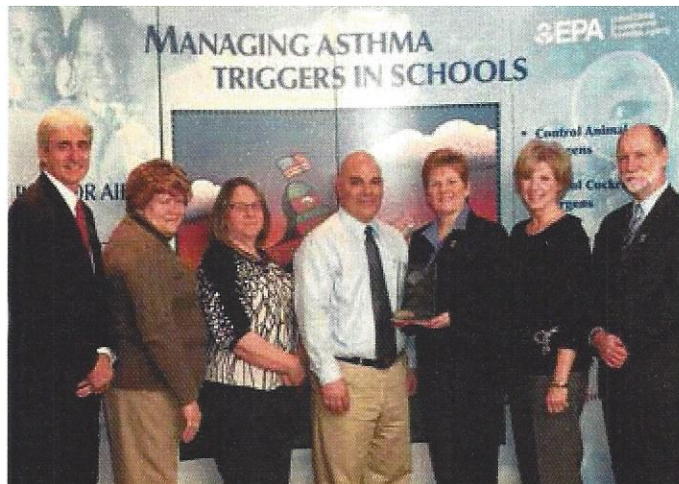
THE STORY

In 2003, Laura Olsen, Environmental and Safety Director for Frederick County Schools, and her team implemented the Ultra Chem Labs School Program to address three objectives: to have a Certified Green Floor Program, to eliminate VOCs to create a healthy building to protect students, staff and visitors, and, being that Frederick County was in the Chesapeake Bay watershed demographics, Laura wanted to address chemical source reduction and eliminate potential harm to the national treasure.

The Ultra Chem Labs School Program was implemented with a five year project which involved 67 schools. Laura, along with Operations Manager, Kathy Mentzer, and Custodial Managers, Cecelia "Pete" Smith and John Carnahan, managed this program to perfection. Today, at Frederick County Schools, operations chemical

usage has been cut by 60%, man hours on floors have been cut by 40%, and the stripping of floors has been completely eliminated. Every year, 34 tons of hazardous sludge is prevented from going into drop sinks, storm drains, parking lots and the grass.

Frederick County schools, in working with senior management support, a multi-disciplinary team of IAQ, industrial hygiene, construction, custodial, maintenance and architecture professionals recognized the critical importance of healthy school environments and made it their educational mission. For the past two decades, Frederick County schools have maintained a proactive approach to IAQ decision making, and has created standards second to no school system in the United States.



L-R: Mike Flynn, Director, Office of Radiation and Indoor Air, U.S. EPA; Cecelia "Pete" Smith, Carmen Early, John Carnahan, Laura Olsen, Kathy Mentzer, Ray Barnes, Frederick County Public Schools, MD