Environmental Quality Management

FLOOR STRIPPER AND WAX: PROPER MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL

WWW.UKY.ENV/STORMWATER

A floor stripper is used in all University facilities to clean floors, remove old wax, and prepare floors for new wax. While the used material is non-hazardous, there are requirements pertaining to the preparation and subsequent disposal of the floor stripper and wax solutions to ensure adherence to the University's permits. The University's MS4 Permit only allows clean water discharges into the stormwater system and requires that the University implement Best Management Practices to prevent the discharge of pollutants from campus.

DO

- ✓ Operate the equipment according to the manufacturer's operating instructions.
- ✓ Check for equipment leaks before use or transporting.
- ✓ Dispose of properly diluted, used floor stripper in the "slop" sinks, which are located in the housekeeping rooms of the building.
- ✓ Follow manufacturer dilution rates at all times.
- ✓ Utilize large amounts of water to flush the system any time used floor stripper and wax solution is poured down sanitary sewer drains.
- ✓ Contact UK Environmental Quality Management for further information and when in doubt regarding the appropriate drain.

DON'T

- ✓ Don't pour used floor stripper and wax onto the ground or into campus storm drains. If in doubt regarding whether a drain is a storm drain, contact UK Environmental Quality Management.



Required Training: 1 per year

Relevant UK Departments:

- Environmental Quality Management
- Facilities Management

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- ➲ The floor stripper used at University facilities in the concentrated form is corrosive material and appropriate personal protective equipment as specified by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the manufacturer should be worn.
- ➲ The manufacturer typically specifies that the floor stripper should be diluted as follows:
  - 10 parts water to 1 part floor stripper for normal operations (5 gallons water and ½ gallon of floor stripper added to the mop bucket).
  - 5 parts water to 1 part floor stripper for heavy cleaning areas (5 gallons water and 1 gallon floor stripper added to the mop bucket).
  - Dilution rates should be confirmed before disposal.

ACTIVITY CHECKLIST

- ☐ Confirm dilution rates before disposal EVERY time.
- ☐ Dispose of floor stripper ONLY in approved locations.
- ☐ Flush the system with large amounts of water EVERY time.