

Case Study: Day Care Facility Safer Cleaning Supplies

Morenos Daycare

Morenos Daycare serves families in Watsonville, CA. Owner and operator Hilda Salcedo understands the negative effect of children's exposure to toxic chemicals and is excited to transition to less-toxic cleaning products that are easy to use and accessible to purchase.

"La salud de los niños es lo más importante. Children's health is the most important thing." - Hilda Salcedo, Owner and Operator

Why are children more vulnerable?

High exposure due to:

- Frequent contact with the ground or floor, where chemicals collect.
- Hand-to-mouth activity.
- Less varied diet.
- Eat, drink, and breath more per pound.
- Spend most of the time indoors.



If a chemical is present in air, food, or water, a greater amount will be taken in by a child in proportion to their body size than by an adult.

Business Profile:

Name: Morenos Daycare

Business Type: Daycare

Location: Freedom, CA

Enrollment Capacity: 14

Number of Children: 11

Age Range: Infant - Preschool

Daily Meals Provided: 5

Number of employees: 2

Indoor square footage:

500 sq ft

Outdoor square footage:

1000 sq ft

Method of dishwashing:

Handwash

Loads of laundry per week: 4

Hand washing stations: 2

NAICS Code: 624410

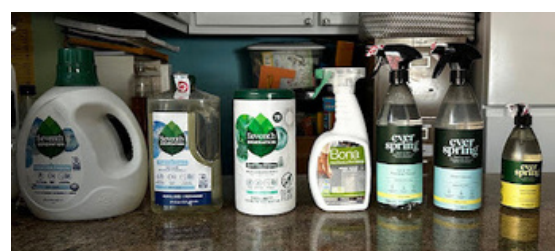
Products used before:

- Bed Bath and Beyond Hand Soap
- Windex Glass Cleaner
- Comet Foam Bath Cleaner
- Pinalen Multipurpose Cleaner
- Kirkland Dishwashing Liquid
- Kirkland Laundry Detergent



Products used after:

- Ever Spring Hand Soap
- Ever Spring Glass Cleaner
- Ever Spring Tub & Tile Foaming Cleaner
- Bona Hard-Surface Floor Cleaner
- Seventh Generation Multi Surface Wipes
- Seventh Generation Dish Liquid
- Seventh Generation Laundry Detergent

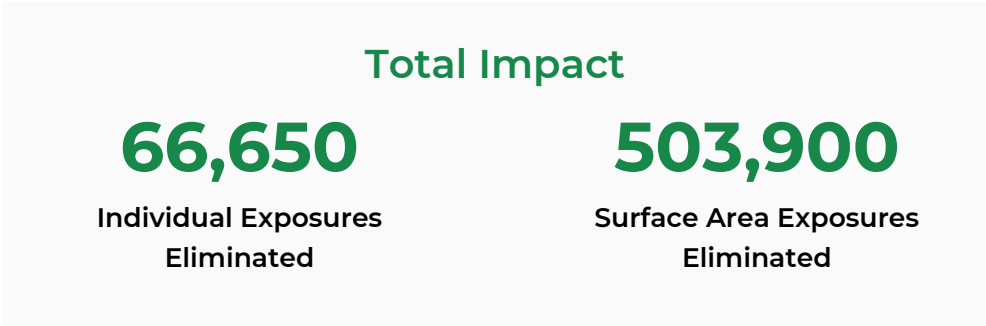


For this program safer cleaning supplies include: EPA certified Safer Choice, GreenSeal Certified products and/or Environmental Working Group evaluated products.

Results

Old Item	New Item	Use Frequency (Per Day)	Square Feet of Area Cleaned	Number of people Exposed*	Number of Exposures (per week)	Number of Exposures over 1 year period**
Dial hand soap	Ecos Pro Hand Soap	4	N/A	13	260	13,000
Bleach	Peroxide Multi-purpose Cleaner	4	500	13	20	500,000
Dawn Dishsoap	Ecos Plant Based	5	N/A	13	325	16,250
Bed Bath and Beyond hand soap	Ever Spring Hand Soap	5	N/A	13	325	16,250
Windex Glass Cleaner	Ever Spring Glass Cleaner	0.2	48	13	13	650
Comet Foam Bath Cleaner	Ever Spring Tub & Tile Foaming Cleaner	0.2	N/A	13	13	650
Pinalen Multipurpose Cleaner	Bona Hard-Surface Floor Cleaner	1	200	13	65	3,250
Kirkland Dishwashing Liquid	Seventh Generation Dish Liquid	5	N/A	13	325	16,250
Kirkland Laundry Detergent	Seventh Generation Laundry Detergent	1	N/A	13	65	3,250

*students and care-providers
**50 weeks, assuming facility is closed 2 weeks each year



It is estimated that Morenos Daycare will pay about \$15 per month more for safer cleaning supplies. However, this cost was offset by savings achieved by transitioning to reusable foodware.

This project was financially supported through an EPA Region 9 Source Reduction Assistance/Pollution Prevention Grant and technical assistance was provided by the California Green Business Network.