

The Scarsdale Inquirer

APRIL 24, 2009

HOME & GARDEN

A commitment to healthy living drives Maid Brigade

Maid Brigade, a company committed to providing environmentally friendly home cleaning services throughout Westchester, Putnam, Rockland and Fairfield counties, is the only Green Clean Certified® house cleaning company in the region.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the air inside a typical home is, on average, two to five times more polluted than the air outside, largely due to household cleaners.

Maid Brigade's exclusive Green Clean Certified® system is a comprehensive cleaning program that includes green cleaning solutions, equipment and processes. Maid Brigade's team members use cleaning solutions that are certified by Green Seal, a nonprofit organization that sets the standards for preventing the

usage of toxic chemicals, noxious fumes and wasted resources.

Maid Brigade's vacuums are certified through the nonprofit Carpet and Rug Institute's (CRI) Green Label testing program. They remove 99.9 percent of particulates and asthma and allergy triggers, including mold, pet hair, pet dander, pollen and dust.

CRI's Green Label testing program tests carpets, cushions, adhesives and vacuum cleaners to ensure they meet stringent criteria for low chemical emissions and help to improve indoor air quality.

Maid Brigade's staff also uses microfiber mops and cleaning cloths, which last longer than traditional string mops and cotton cloths, and work effectively with less cleaning product to minimize environmental impact.

"Global warming, greenhouse gasses,

allergies, headaches, respiratory problems and autism are all very real," said Robin Murphy, president of Maid Brigade. "As global citizens, we must all be aware of how we are treating ourselves and the environment around us."

She added, "We believe that when our clients' homes are being cleaned, they should not suffer because of toxic products being used. Maid Brigade is dedicated to providing services and utilizing products that eliminate added toxic pollution."

Green Seal's standards are based on internationally recognized methods and procedures and evaluate cleaners on the following criteria: cleans common household surfaces effectively; contains no carcinogens or toxins; contains no skin or eye irritants; contains minimal Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) to reduce harmful fumes; less likely to cause

allergic reactions; noncombustible; biodegradable; contains no aquatic toxins/is safe for the water supply; contains safe fragrances; contains no endocrine disruptors, making them safer for people and pets; contains environmentally safe levels of phosphorus; and uses reduced packaging to minimize impact on landfills and depletion of natural resources.

Maid Brigade's proprietary Green Clean Certified® system was developed by creating a thorough system and publishing guidelines and standards. Such standards ensure that the highest green cleaning standards are met during each house cleaning visit.

Maid Brigade screens, insures, bonds and trains every employee.

For additional information, contact Maid Brigade at 741-0552 or at <http://westchestercounty.maidbrigade.com>. —G