

Floor Care Solutions Offers Green Carpet Cleaning; Carbon Neutral Explained; Green Home for \$825K

Green Carpet Cleaning – Floor Care Solutions is a family-owned green commercial carpet and textile cleaning company serving the region since 1998. The company is IICRC accredited – the highest certification for professionals with expertise in inspection, cleaning, and restoration of carpets and textiles. The company is also designated as a Master Textile Cleaner, a designation that less than two percent of the industry achieves nationwide.

Floor Care Solutions subscribes to strict environmental standards in the use of their products and in their approach to using water. The company uses safe, biodegradable, and non-toxic cleaning solutions. They also use a low-moisture system that dries in less than an hour to minimize the impact of humidity. This reduces the risk of mold, which can seriously damage indoor environments.

Traditional carpet-cleaning systems waste a tremendous amount of water. Typical hot-water extraction of steam cleaning uses approximately 120 gallons of water to clean 1,000 square feet of carpet. A gallon of water is used for every minute of cleaning. The discharge water ends up containing the chemicals used during the process, along with the soil and contaminants removed from the carpet. This "spent" water often goes back into the municipal sewage system. By contrast, the Floor Care Solution system uses approximately three gallons of water per 1,000 square feet with no discharge (only evaporation).

Floor Care Solutions specializes in cleaning class A office buildings, banquet rooms, restaurants, and offices for people concerned with creating a healthier indoor environment for themselves, their employees, tenants, and customers. This health consideration is important since carpets act like large filters for capturing and storing pollutants, dust, bacteria, cleaning chemicals, soda, coffee, and other products. The chemical soup degrades indoor air quality and ultimately impacts on cost and productivity.

Floor Care Solutions offers free demonstrations. Please call 941-552-1287 or visit www.floorcaresolutions.info.

Carbon Clarity – What does it mean to be "carbon neutral"? Being carbon neutral or carbon free involves either emitting no carbon dioxide into the atmosphere



Offset your ecological footprint by riding a bike and making other energy-efficient personal choices.

through conservation and renewable energy resources or creating offsets to neutralize the use of carbons. For example, being carbon neutral might involve riding a bicycle to work instead of driving a car, while an offset might be planting trees that absorb carbon dioxide.

Becoming carbon neutral involves three major steps: 1) conserving, 2) using renewable energy resources, and 3) creating offsets. It is important to be conservative when using energy to heat, cool, or light your home and office. When possible, use alternative energy resources such as solar, wind, and water. It's challenging not to use carbon emissions in our society. That's why offsetting our ecological footprint through personal choices is helpful. You can also buy carbon credits from reputable companies. The offsets can come in the form of efforts to support reforestation, promote renewable energy alternatives, and develop energy-efficient technology.

MyGreenBuildings – The green prototype home on Goldenrod, built by MyGreenBuildings, recently went on the market for \$825K. Located west of Tamiami Trail at 1876 Goldenrod, the home is available for

viewing upon request by contacting the builder at 941-876-6138.

The home on Goldenrod is the most energy-efficient home certified by Energy Star and the Florida Green Building Coalition on the market in the State of Florida, according to Steve Ellis, co-owner of MyGreenBuildings. The home has been the subject of feature tours by the American Institute of Architects and the Florida House Learning Center. The Goldenrod project will be discussed in an upcoming lecture at Robb and Stucky Furniture on July 18 that is open to the public.

The green home features three bedrooms and three baths. It is built to withstand Florida's high winds and hurricanes with 250-mile-per-hour engineered wall systems comprised of concrete with R15 insulation. Additional features include soy-based urethane insulation with an R20 factor covering the inside of the roof to significantly reduce air conditioning requirements, advanced water reclamation features, a solar water heating system, reclaimed materials and a Florida Friendly Yards and Neighborhoods certification. Learn more about MyGreenBuildings at www.mygreenbuildings.com or call 941-876-6138.

SCG Protects Land – Sarasota County's Environmentally Sensitive Lands Protection Program recently purchased 62 acres in the Myakka Pines protection site. According to program coordinator Brooke Elias, the \$1.2 million acquisition marks the largest this year for the environmental lands program, an initiative that has protected approximately 16,000 acres since votes approved it in 1999.

"This is an important purchase because the area protects habitat for wildlife, as well as river properties that bear the impact of flooding after heavy storms," said Elias. "The site is also home to quality oak hammock, pine flatwoods, and river habitats that are critical for buffering the shoreline."

The acquired acreage is located on the Myakka River and bordered on the north and east by the county's 25,000-acre T. Mabry Carlton Jr. Memorial Reserve. Elias said the parcel will expand the protected wildlife corridor along the Myakka, which is designated a wild and scenic river.

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