



## **CLEANERS CORNER**

Have you ever finished dust mopping a classroom only to turn around and see a few “dust bunnies” left behind on the floor? Have you ever had complaints that the floor is slippery after you finish dust mopping? To help prevent leaving dust debris behind when dust mopping, use a counter broom to clean out your dust mop. Do this over a trash can and if possible outside. Better yet, use a wet/dry vacuum or back pack vacuum to remove build up on your dust mop. Also, never pick up your dust mop except when unloading it. Floors can become slippery when the dust mop is treated just prior to use. Today, more and more custodians are using a water based dust mop treatment versus an oil base. If using a water based dust mop treatment, I recommend you spray the treatment at the end of your shift so it has ample time to dry prior to the next use. On the other hand, if you are using an oil based dust mop treatment I recommend it is applied at the end of the shift on a Friday to allow additional time to dry for Monday’s use. In either case make sure to test your dust mop prior to use to avoid causing a slipping hazard while removing “dust bunnies” as you dust mop. By using these preventative measures you just might save yourself from receiving complaints and saving someone else from a fall.

## **SAFETY ZONE**

Let’s face it, our jobs are much tougher on our bodies than most people think they are, especially with all the bending, twisting, and lifting that we do. Custodial departments often have several employees off work due to injury and in some cases those employees have to undergo surgery. Therefore, think about your next task before you jump in and tackle it. Visualize your task and think in terms of your personal safety and how you may handle it in the safest manner possible. For example if not performed correctly, lifting and carrying items are a prime example of an injury waiting to happen. Below you will find basic guidelines for lifting and carrying.

1. Visualize the lift
2. Tuck in your pelvis
3. Bend your knees
4. Hug the load
5. Avoid twisting

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

You can use Dawn dish washing liquid to safely clean permanent marker from a white board or dry erase surface. This will remove the stain without damaging the surface.