Green Long Island

Organization & Contact Information
New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (NYCOSH)
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Project Description
The New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (NYCOSH) is a non-profit membership organization of 200 local unions and approximately 400 individuals which has served the New York Metropolitan area for almost 30 years. NYCOSH offers training, education, technical assistance and advocacy toward safe and healthy workplaces for all. The goal of the Green Long Island project was to increase the awareness and use of green cleaning products among schools, healthcare facilities and municipalities on Long Island. Activities included:

1. Conducting research of best practices by employers and employees in using green cleaning products
2. Conducting assessments of worker attitudes towards transitioning to green products
3. Integrating the research findings into existing training curricula and writing educational fact sheets on green products that can be used as hand-outs in training sessions and widely distributed to Long Island stakeholders
4. Conducting both general awareness and advanced training sessions on green products and toxic reduction to the workers and unions represented in Occupational and Environmental Health Committee of the Long Island Federation of Labor and their respective employers

Project Status
The project was a success! NYCOSH reported conducting sustained outreach to 40 Long Island unions that represent over 100,000 members, presenting 5 workshops attended by 61 people, speaking about the project at three events attended by over 600 people, connecting with 45 media outlets to discuss workshops, and distributed two surveys which an overwhelming response: received 195 survey responses from custodial/maintenance employees and 486 survey responses from teachers and clerical employees in Long Island public schools.