

Carpet Cleaning Survey

The following information was collected in November of 2008 by Deborah MacLeod of the Colorado Talking Book Library. These questions were posed to the libnet listserv:

“Now that we have new carpet, we need to get it cleaned regularly. I would be interested in hearing how libraries manage the scheduling of cleaning. Does this happen while the library is open or closed? How do you deal with the time it takes to dry? Do you have a cleaning company that you would recommend? We are in Denver so the company would need to service Denver. Finally, how often do you have your carpets cleaned?”

The following responses do not reflect an endorsement of any kind for any company mentioned but are simply the compiled responses.

-----Responses-----

It seems to happen at least once a month. They clean by sections and there are four sections. So it takes four months to clean the entire library. If we have something really pressing they can schedule a separate time. Generally it is done on Sundays after we close at 5 pm. It seems that all is dry by the time we open on Monday morning. This is the company we use: www.floorcareco.com <outbind://16/www.floorcareco.com> Hope that helps.

I heartily recommend SuperSteam, (303) 429-5766.

They usually clean the carpets over scheduled library closures, and they shampoo at night. So IF the carpets were being cleaned this month, it would be Monday night of next week, since we're closed Tuesday for Veteran's Day.

Bagnall Services has been a long-time supporter of Rebuilding Together, an organization I volunteer with (free home repairs) 303-797-6400

Also, we (Gaspar Terrana) use Chem-Dry by Blair for rental properties and our own house, as the process is different-doesn't soak the carpet with water: 303-320-1868

We use Spectra ... contact is Milan Kovacevic 303 956-4917. Arapahoe LD uses them as well. They do an excellent job. We clean carpets once/yr. That's really all we can afford. They assure that it dries and that there's not too much moisture due to our inventory of 70,000 books.

Milan works with our custodial staff and building maintenance staff and typically they perform the work after hours on a Friday or Saturday.

I may be able to help you with this. Bob Krusinsky with ChemDry (all natural, no chemicals) does carpet cleaning all over the Denver area. The method he uses takes 1-2 hours to dry so scheduling is much easier. He can provide the service during business hours or early or late, whatever works best for your location. We have been very pleased with his work. He can be reached at (303)278-0194, or if I can help, I am at (303)668-4440.

Believe it or not, we only clean the carpets once a year. I'm sure it would've been better for the carpet to do it more often, but basically, I forgot, and then we settled into having it done New Year's Eve/Day, so that we have two days for it to dry well. The only other two-day closure is Christmas Eve/Day.

We always have someone do ours when we are on holiday, like Columbus Day, Labor Day, etc. Usually we can work with them to have things dry by opening the next day.

Ben Wyatt, Spectra Product Care/Denver, General Manager

Phone: 303.778.8665 Email: ben.wyatt@spectracf.com

The cleaning of the carpet is outsourced to Spectra Contract Flooring. The frequencies are adjusted to meet budgetary needs and expectations. The frequencies are color-coded on the foot print of the facilities to show the levels of cleaning in high traffic areas to low traffic areas. For example:

Front Entrance will be considered a high traffic area and will probably get about 8 cleanings a year as to where the back of the facility, a possible low traffic area will only get 2 cleanings per year. We provided blue prints of the facilities to the contractor so that it clearly shows the color-coded low and high traffic areas so that there's no confusion of the amount of cleaning in the low and high traffic areas.

The service is performed after hours and they will vacuum during each cleaning. However, the vacuuming should be done once per day especially in high traffic areas to assure the success of the program. Two methods are used to clean the carpet. One is High Performance Hot Water Extraction, and the other is the ResistTech (TM) Low Moisture Cleaner.

The method of cleaning is determined by the condition of the existing carpet. A no time bonnet machine will be used as this wears out the life of the carpet. They will move chairs and small furnishing when needed.

The carpet is usually dry before the opening of the libraries.

Ben Wyatt is our contact at Spectra and they are located in Denver and he could be reached at 303-778-8665 or ben.wyatt@spectracf.com

I send this email with high recommendation. Service has always been timely and the price is very reasonable.