

# Laundry Detergent

## **Covered Services**

Detergent used to wash clothing and other textiles.

## **Definitions**

*Laundry Detergent* – a detergent that is used to wash clothing or textiles and can come in liquid or powder form.

## **Standard Setting and Certification Programs**

*Cradle to Cradle* - is a multi-attribute eco-label that evaluates a wide range of products across five categories of human and environmental health. The standard includes material health, material reutilization, renewable energy and carbon management, and water stewardship.

*Green Seal* - is a non-profit, independent, third-party standard setting and certification organization that follows the Guiding Principles and Procedures for Type I Environmental Labeling adopted by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO 14024). Green Seal has developed environmental standards and certifies products for more than 40 major product categories.

*UL EcoLogo* - is an independent, third-party standard setting and certification program that follows the Guiding Principles and Procedures for Type I Environmental Labeling adopted by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO 14024). Since its establishment in 1988, EcoLogo has been recognized or referenced in hundreds of specifications and standards. It has standards for cleaning products, sanitary paper, trash bags, adhesives and more.

*USDA Biobased* - is a third-party certification of the biobased content in a product and its packaging administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The content is quantified using ASTM International D6866.

## **Specifications**

### *Purchase Concentrates or in Bulk*

All affected entities shall, to the maximum extent practicable, purchase laundry detergent in concentrate or in bulk to limit the amount of packaging. In addition, all affected entities should consider purchasing products that come in powder or strip form to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from shipping.

### *Purchase Laundry Detergent That Meets Specifications*

All affected entities shall purchase laundry detergent that comply with the chemical restriction provisions of article 35 of the New York state environmental conservation law.

All affected entities shall, to the maximum extent practicable, purchase laundry detergent that meets one, or both, of the following third-party certifications:

- Green Seal (GS-51)
- UL EcoLogo (ULE 2776)

In addition, all affected entities are encouraged, to the maximum extent practicable, to purchase laundry detergent that also carries one, or both, of the following third party certifications:

- Cradle to Cradle
- USDA BioBased

#### *Use Only What You Need*

All affected entities are encouraged, to the maximum extent practicable, to use dispensing systems for laundry detergent, or to have procedures and staff training in place to ensure only the necessary amount is used.

#### *Packaging*

Packaging shall comply with Environmental Conservation Law section 37-0205. Packaging shall not contain inks, dyes, pigments, adhesives, stabilizers, or any other additives to which any lead, cadmium, mercury, or hexavalent chromium is intentionally added or contain incidental concentrations of lead, cadmium, mercury, or hexavalent chromium which together are greater than 100 parts per million by weight (0.01%). New York State encourages affected entities to adopt the following:

- The use of bulk packaging.
- The use of reusable packaging.
- The use of innovative packaging that reduces the weight of packaging, reduces packaging waste or utilizes packaging that is a component of the product.
- That all packaging remain the property of the supplier and not become the property of the affected state entity under any circumstance or condition. The vendor shall certify that the packaging material will be reused, recycled, or composted, and managed in compliance with applicable local, state, and federal laws.
- Packaging that maximizes recycled content and/or meets or exceeds the minimum post-consumer content level for packaging in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines.
- Packaging that is recyclable or compostable.