

Thinking about buying new dry cleaning equipment?



WE ARE OFFERING
\$20,000  **grants**
to help you replace your
perchloroethylene (PERC) dry
cleaning machine with professional
wet cleaning equipment.

"We are very happy with our new machine. The clothes come out clean and I save a lot of time because I'm not cleaning out filters and sludge. My utility bills are lower too. This machine is the future!"

- Tae Park, Owner, Sun Cleaners
Seattle, Washington



Grant Recipients Must

- ✓ Be located in King County and use a PERC dry cleaning machine
- ✓ Clean out and dispose of your PERC machine safely
- ✓ Buy and install a professional wet cleaning system, including new detergents and spot cleaners
- ✓ Dispose of your old detergents, spot cleaners, and other chemicals you used with your PERC machine (we can help you dispose of these for free)
- ✓ Allow us to verify that you have disposed of your old machine and chemicals properly and that your new chemicals are relatively safe

Wet Cleaning Benefits



Safer for the environment



Safer for worker health



Savings in utility costs



Eligibility for EnviroStars recognition



82%
of people in King County prefer environmentally-friendly businesses



For more information:

 206-477-0660  drycleanergrants@kingcounty.gov

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q What type of equipment can I purchase with the grant?

- A** To ensure the best possible cleaning results, we are only providing funds for professional wet cleaning equipment that meets all the following specifications. The new equipment must:
- have a capacity equal to or greater than the PERC machine it is replacing (typically, at least 35lbs.).
 - be capable of cleaning “dry clean only” fabrics in water by using a programmable system to control washing rhythm and speed, water temperature, water level, and extraction speed.
 - include a dryer with residual moisture sensors.

Q Can I buy detergents and conditioners meant for laundry or home washing machines?

- A** No. You must use professional wet cleaning detergents and conditioners designed for use in commercial textile care facilities. Check with the machine manufacturer for a recommended brand.

Q Can I still use the spot cleaners and other products I use with my PERC machine?

- A** No. You must dispose of your old spot cleaners, detergents, sizing, and other chemicals and replace them with products recommended by the equipment manufacturer. We can help you dispose of your old products for free. Your new spot cleaners must not contain harmful halogenated chemicals (like PERC, trichloroethylene, or methylene chloride). Check with your professional wet cleaning detergent provider for a list of approved spotting agents.

Q What is likely to be the total cost of replacing my PERC dry cleaning machine?

- A** The total cost typically ranges between \$45,000 and \$60,000. Costs vary depending on how easy it is to remove your PERC machine and install your new machine, the capacity of the new machine, whether you need to buy pressing and tensioning equipment, and whether you need modifications to your shop, like electrical and ventilation upgrades.

Q How long will my shop have to be closed?

- A** It will take at least two to three days between removing your PERC machine and starting to use your new equipment. Some training may also be required. Check with your vendors.

Q Do I need tensioning equipment?

- A** Yes. You will need a Tensioning Pants Topper and a Tensioning Form Finisher.

Q What is the process for getting the reimbursement?

- A** You must submit the following documentation to the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program: (1) a completed voucher form; (2) receipts (for example, receipts for PERC machine removal and disposal, new equipment, and delivery and installation); (3) an original completed W-9 form with signature. It will take up to three weeks to receive reimbursement after submitting those items. Your reimbursement will be paid by check and mailed through the U.S. Postal Service.