APPLETREE COVID-19 Supplemental Awards
Informed Green Solutions

Introduction
In early 2021, ASTHO, with support from CDC’s National Center for Environmental Health and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), announced awards to five state health agencies to support their responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. State health agencies in Kentucky, Virginia, Arkansas, Vermont, and Indiana were selected for this opportunity because of their recent application to ATSDR’s Partnership to Promote Local Efforts to Reduce Environmental Exposure (APPLETREE) cooperative agreement program. Vermont requested that ASTHO work directly with their partner organization, Informed Green Solutions (IGS), for this project. ASTHO is providing funding and assistance to the recipient state health agencies and state health agency partners to support their environmental health-related COVID-19 response activities. This factsheet outlines activities supported under these awards for the Vermont Department of Health’s partner organization, IGS.

Supported Activities – Informed Green Solutions
IGS, a longtime partner of the Vermont Department of Health, “provides education and technical assistance on how to transition to a more sustainable footprint through your purchasing decisions.” IGS has experience providing resources, consultations, and trainings on green cleaning and effective infection control in school settings. Its proposed activities focus on informing schools and early care and education (ECE) programs about effective, safe COVID-19 mitigation protocols. Activities supported through this award include the following:

- Engaging with stakeholders to host virtual meetings and workshops with K-12 schools and ECE programs to provide information on safe and effective COVID-19 mitigation protocols, including protecting students and staff from harmful environmental exposures (such as from chemical disinfectants).
- Consulting with K-12 schools and ECE programs to ensure their facilities’ COVID-19 mitigation measures follow federal and state guidance for lowering the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission while protecting students and staff from harmful environmental exposures.
- Customizing and/or developing multiple factsheets or policy templates/guidance documents on the topic of safe infection control for K-12 schools and ECE programs.