

Environment-friendly “wet” cleaner moves to Highlands Ranch

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Environment-friendly Green Care Cleaners has moved to Highlands Ranch

Residents of Highlands Ranch and surrounding areas don't need to take their clothes to a dry cleaner any more because Highlands Ranch now has an environment-friendly “wet” cleaner.

Green Care Cleaners, one of a handful of Colorado cleaners that use EPA-endorsed wet cleaning for clothes, recently moved to Highlands Ranch from its longtime home in Littleton. Their new location is 537 West Highlands Ranch Parkway.



Environment-Friendly Green Care Cleaners has moved to Highlands Ranch.

Green Care Cleaners is owned and operated by Evan and Minja Yoon, a husband and wife team who were in the dry cleaning business for 25 years before switching to wet cleaning seven years ago.



Green Care's "wet" cleaning is especially good for leather and formal dresses.

“We switched to wet cleaning because it’s better for the environment, your clothes and your health,” said Evan Yoon. “Clothes last longer, resist staining, feel softer and don’t have the chemical smell from traditional dry cleaning. And you’re not putting the residue from the toxic chemicals used in dry cleaning next to your body when wearing your clothes.”

The term “dry” cleaning is a bit of a misnomer. It’s called “dry” because no water is used. Instead, most dry cleaners use the liquid chemical solvent Perchloroethylene (PERC) that is both toxic and carcinogenic.

Green Care’s wet cleaning uses water and specially designed, environmentally safe soaps. The cleaning happens in high-tech, computer-controlled machines that carefully control temperature, water volume water and soap. The machines use a much gentler cleaning action than the kind of washing machine you use at home. And the soap is engineered with the use of high-tech nanotechnology

Wet cleaning works well for virtually any fabric, including wool and leather. It's especially good for preserving wedding dresses, prom gowns and other formal wear.

Wet cleaning gets clothes cleaner because sweat and other bodily fluids that end up on clothes are made up mostly of water. Traditional dry cleaning doesn't do a very good job with water-based stains. Wet cleaning also does a better job of getting out food stains.

Another reason clothes get cleaner with wet cleaning is because of a dirty little secret employed by most dry cleaners to save money. Dry cleaners re-use the same solvent many times to clean clothes. With each cleaning, the solvent gets a little darker. So, they use the newest batch of solvent to clean white and other light-colored clothes, older batches to clean darker clothes.

Evan Yoon has been in the cleaning business for more than 30 years and considers himself a student of cleaning and a chemist because he has to understand the chemistry of every piece of clothing that comes through his shop. "Wet cleaning simply works better," he said. "And it's safer for our customers and our staff."

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