

Email sent April 2nd from Courtney Paynter, Walmart's Director, Facility Services, to its vendor partners regarding [WorldSweeper's April 1st spoof](#):

Good evening vendor partners,

As I'm sure you're aware, today is April Fool's Day, and it appears no one is immune.

Some of you may have received a message today from "World Sweeper" stating that Walmart is planning to change its exterior cleaning frequencies amongst other things. As you've guessed by now, this message was a practical joke at our expense and is, in no way, an indication that we are changing our practices.

I hope you can take this little joke with the same good-natured humor we have, and I look forward to working with each of you in the future.

Additionally, please let me introduce Mark Graham and Chad Evans (copied) who will be able to assist with any follow on questions that you might have. Chad leads our Exterior Services team. Mark joins us this week as the primary contact for all things Power Washing specifically as we move forward.

Best,

Courtney Paynter

Director, Facility Services

Waste, Recycling, and Exterior Services – Walmart Stores, Inc.

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WorldSweeper's same-day response sent via email to Ms. Paynter:

Hi, Courtney,

Good to hear you contacted your folks to confirm they knew they'd received an April Fool's Day joke. It's something I have done each year for perhaps a decade.

I must say that the thought of using your organization as part of it didn't occur to me until so much time had gone by with no contact from either the "every effort to respond in 24 hours" media department or from you re: the questions posed. Prior to our next conversation, I encourage you to re-read the April Fool's missive. The issues that were 'solved' given how Walmart interacts with its contractors, as per the 'joke,' are in all seriousness real issues that should be addressed. That's what made it work.

I will be gone away from my office for all of next week. Please consider what answers to the questions I submitted should come from Walmart and then

provide those answers. No doubt all will not be what contractors would like to see; however, as the new Manager of Exterior Services you need to know that the issues I brought up are real life issues that affect the lives of your contractors.

For example, I've had to go to Walmart's chosen third party vendors to get contractors paid for their bona fide work that had been done long before. By and large, because of being media and they know it, all of them paid up or provided actual mitigating circumstances. As for Walmart's moving from 7x to 3x to 5x: Actual contractors had to lay off and then try to re-hire in this job market.

I could certainly go on, ditto with the power washing and 'broom-and-dustpan' scenario with no consequences from your organization, etc. However, it's 8pm on a Friday night and I have preparations to make for next week away. I assure you I have no need to be adversarial and I can only hope you will find the same to be true. Let's provide information, the only way to move forward in most any endeavor.

Cheers,
Ranger