

Green Procurement



Greening Virginia Universities & Colleges
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Overview

What is Environmentally Preferable Purchasing?

Where Can I Begin?

Growing Emphasis on Green

- Greater environmental impact emphasis related to procurement
- Stewardship role of institutions
- Procurement policies / directives

Environmental Impacts of Purchasing

What is our Environmental Footprint?

--Measuring impacts--

- ▣ Use of Resources & Energy
- ▣ Pollution generated:
Climate Change, Toxics,
Air, Water and Soil Quality

Challenges

- New products and technologies
- How to measure impacts
- Greenwashing
- How to integrate into procurement

What is

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing?

- “Products and services that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing products or services that serve the same purpose.
- This comparison may consider raw materials acquisition, production, manufacturing, packaging, distribution, reuse, operation, maintenance, or disposal of the product or service.”
- **From Federal Executive Order 13101, *Greening the Government*, September 16, 1998.**

Purchasing

From a Life-Cycle Perspective

- ❑ **Product design**
- ❑ **Manufacturing**
- ❑ **Raw materials**
- ❑ **Packaging and distribution**
- ❑ **Use of product**
- ❑ **Maintenance of Product/Supplies**
- ❑ **Disposal/end-of-life management**

Types of Attributes:

- Product-specific attributes
- Process-specific attributes
- Manufacturer-specific attributes

Procurement Opportunities

- ❑ Buildings
- ❑ Cafeteria Supplies
- ❑ Carpeting
- ❑ Cleaning Products
- ❑ Computers
- ❑ Copiers
- ❑ Electronics
- ❑ Energy Sources
- ❑ Furniture
- ❑ Landscaping/Pest Management
- ❑ Lodging
- ❑ Office Supplies
- ❑ Paint
- ❑ Paper
- ❑ Printing
- ❑ Vehicle Fleets

State Procurement Policies

- ❑ 10% price preference for recycled-content papers and also for recycled-oil & anti-freeze
- ❑ May petition to include recycled-content or less toxic goods in procurement process
- ❑ Tie bid preference to Virginia vendor and to items with recycled-content
- ❑ Increase awareness and promote the use of recycled goods

Executive Order 48

3.14 g APSPM – Appliances & Equipment

- Purchase or lease Energy Star or equivalent rated appliances and equipment for all classifications when an Energy Star or equivalent rating is available
- All new office equipment purchased or leased by the Commonwealth that uses paper shall be recycled paper-compatible

Existing “Green” State Contracts:

- ❑ Fine Paper & Envelope
 - ❑ Printing Contracts
 - ❑ Channing-Bete Educational Publications
 - ❑ Remanufactured Laser Cartridges
 - ❑ Office Supplies
 - ❑ Carpet
 - ❑ Vehicles
- (see handout)

Virginia Distribution Center (VDC) - “Green Products”

- ❑ Paper Towels
- ❑ Toilet Tissues
- ❑ Detergent-Disinfectant-Deodorizer (GSC)
- ❑ Floor sealer, zinc-free (GSC)
- ❑ Skin cleanser, foaming soap (GSC)

(see handout)

Existing “Green” State Contracts – Energy-Star Rated (see Handout)

- ❑ Copiers
- ❑ Calculators
- ❑ Flashlights
- ❑ Generators
- ❑ Ice Machines
- ❑ Appliances
- ❑ Lab Supplies
(see handout)

State Contracts with Possible Potential for “Green Products/Services”

- Printing and Publications
- Furniture
- School Buses
- Insecticides & Herbicides
- Hauling, Moving and Labor
(see handout)

Product/Service Examples

Green Cleaning

- Safer, healthier working conditions
- Competes well with existing products
- Can reduce costs and labor

Product/Service Examples

Green Cleaning

- Products:
 - Cleaners
 - Vacuums, Burnishers, Vapor cleaners, Cloths

- Janitorial or Maintenance Services
 - Requires employee training

- Process
 - Less frequent applications possible
 - Evaluation of type of products needed

Product/Service Examples

Vehicles and Fuels

- Flex-Fuel & Hybrid Cars on State Contract
- Compressed Natural Gas-powered (CNG) Vehicles
- Ethanol
- Bio-fuels (Cooking Grease)

Product/Service Examples

Vehicles and Fuels

- ❑ E-85 fuel: 85% ethanol 15% gasoline
- ❑ More than 3,000 gallons have been used.
- ❑ More than 750 OFMS pool vehicles are designed to run on E-85. Symbol on gas tank door.
- ❑ Ethanol is made from corn and in the future other plant material, such as switch grass
- ❑ Flex-fuel vehicles – can operate on 100% gasoline or any blend of ethanol and unleaded gasoline. At present time, best to purchase already converted.

Product/Service Examples

E-85 Fuel Site - Richmond

1st Ethanol-Based Fueling Site For State Vehicles
DGS, Office of Fleet Mgmt Services , 2400 W. Leigh St.



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Where Can I Begin?

Green Procurement Program Components

- ❑ Identify initial priorities
- ❑ Identify desired environmental attributes
- ❑ Identify products or work groups to focus on
- ❑ Set reasonable goals with timeframes
- ❑ Who's in charge -- Empower green purchasing staff or team

Program Components (cont.)

- ❑ Research existing environmental certification programs and other resources
- ❑ Implement a communications plan to employees and other target groups
- ❑ Track activity and results

Resources: Certification Programs

Green Certification Programs

- Energy Star
- Green Seal
- Eco-logo
- Forest Stewardship Council
- ePEAT
- Chlorine-free Products Association

Building on the Work of Others

- ❑ Center for a New American Dream
www.newdream.org/procure
- ❑ EPA's EPP Program www.epa.gov/oppt/epp
- ❑ Office of the Federal Environmental Executive
www.ofee.gov
- ❑ The Official Recycled Products Guide from PA
contains >4,500 recycled product listings
www.dep.state.pa.us/wm_apps/recycledproducts/
- ❑ Government Procurement www.govpro.com

Conclusion

- ❑ The focus on green practices and sustainability will continue and expand
- ❑ Number and type of products increasing
- ❑ Large buying power means cost savings
- ❑ Try pilot projects
- ❑ Upper-level support assists in changing institutional systems, culture