

Green Purchasing

Green Procurement is defined as the method where environmental and social considerations are taken with equal weight to the price, availability and performance criteria that colleges and universities use to make purchasing decisions. Green Purchasing is a serious consideration of supply chain management. Green Purchasing minimizes negative environmental and social effects through the use of environmentally friendly products. Green Purchasing attempts to identify and reduce environmental impact and to maximize resource efficiency. Green Purchasing is also known as “environmentally preferred purchasing (EPP), green procurement, affirmative procurement, eco-procurement, and environmentally responsible purchasing”.



- Improves the environment by reducing toxic pollution and waste, conserving resources and habitats, and minimizing global warming and ozone depletion;
- Increases health and well being, particularly in populations most affected by product choice, such as school children, service staff, and the elderly; and
- Demonstrates to various business segments that environmentally responsible products can improve quality and boost profitability.

What is Expanded Polypropylene (EPP), what products are subject to mandatory EPP requirements and where can we find additional information on these?

Expanded polypropylene (EPP) is an engineered plastic foam material. By combining polypropylene resin with magic dust, and applying heat, pressure and CO₂ in an autoclave, the material is formed into small plastic beads. These small, closed-cell foam beads are injected into a steam chest to create parts custom molded into complex shapes using steam heat & pressure.

The products currently subject to mandatory EPP requirements are listed below along with the links to the latest information resources. Additional products will be added to this list as EPA designates them.

Alternative Fuel Vehicles

<http://www.afdc.energy.gov/fuels/>

Biobased Products

http://www.biopreferred.gov/Biobased_Products.aspx

Recycled Contents Products

<http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/105366>

Non-ozone Depleting Substances

<http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/105415>

Energy Efficient Products

http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find_a_product.

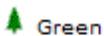
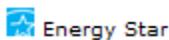
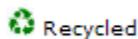
Purchasing Green Housekeeping Items:

Purchase items which strive to achieve a healthier and cleaner environment by using products and cleaning methods that cause less toxic pollution and waste, conserve resources and habitats, and minimize global warming and ozone depletion.

For more information, check the [Environmental Protection Agency website](#).

Other Ideas for Going Green

- **Look for products in TechBuy that display the recycled, the energy star, or green symbols.**



- **Shut down and unplug electronics.** Make small changes to use and pay for less energy, like shutting down your computer when you're not using it and plugging your cell phone and other electronics into power strips so you can turn several devices off with one switch.
- **Turn off lights when not in use.**
- **Wash your clothes in cold water.** By using cold water instead of warm, the average household can avoid emitting 1,281 pounds of carbon dioxide annually and save on energy bills.
- **Fill your bottle with filtered tap water.** Choose the greener solution by using a reusable bottle and filling it with filtered tap water. If you use a filtration system you can make another responsible choice by recycling your pitcher filter when you replace it, which should be about every two months (or every 40 gallons).
- **Exchange CDs, DVDs and books instead of buying.** Now you can avoid purchasing new products without forfeiting your entertainment needs.
- **Use kitchenware products made of recycled materials.** Preserve uses items such as recycled pitcher filters and empty yogurt containers to make their line of colorful kitchen gear. Since they're about the same price as regular kitchenware, it's a no-brainer to choose Preserve products.