Green Purchasing
At Tufts
Green Purchasing

- Acquisition of environmentally preferable products and services including:
  - recycled content products
  - biobased products
  - energy- and water-efficient products
  - alternate fuel vehicles
  - products using renewable energy
  - alternatives to hazardous or toxic chemicals.

- Buying locally
Purchasing Opportunities

1. Magnitude of effect
2. Bargaining power
3. Contract negotiations
4. Cost savings
5. Education
Purchasing Challenges

1. Communication to end-users
2. Misconceptions about quality of “green products”
3. Cost increases
4. Research time
5. Numerous environmental standards
Green Claims
Green Claims
Third Party Certification

“Green Seal is a non-profit organization dedicated to environmental standard setting, product certification, advertising claims substantiation and public education.”

**Product(s):** Over 40 product categories including: cleaners, paints, and more

www.greenseal.org
EcoLogo is the certification mark for the Environmental Choice program of Canada’s national environmental agency. The certification program is conducted by TerraChoice Environmental Marketing, a private, for profit environmental marketing services company located in Ottawa, Ontario.

Product(s): Over 300 product categories including: cleaners, paints, and more

http://www.environmentalchoice.com/
• **The Green-e logo** is a nationally recognized symbol to help consumers identify superior, certified renewable energy products.

• **Product(s):** Renewable energy certificates, utility green pricing programs, competitive market electricity, and greenhouse gas emissions reductions

• www.green-e.org
EPEAT is a system to help purchasers in the public and private sectors evaluate, compare and select desktop computers, notebooks and monitors based on their environmental attributes. Bronze, Silver, and Gold levels of certification are available.

**Product(s):** Desktop computers, integrated systems, monitors, notebooks

www.epeat.net
What Makes an EPEAT Computer Better for the Environment?

Gets the Lead Out
EPEAT-registered computers eliminate nearly all lead, in addition to six other toxics typically found in electronic equipment.

Closes the Loop
Uses recycled materials, and designed to be easily recycled.

Saves Your Energy
Meets the strictest standards for energy efficiency, saving money and the environment.

Packs Lightly
Packaging is free of toxic chemicals and recyclable.

Lives Long and Prospers
Designed to be easily upgraded with available parts.

Comes Around, Goes Around
Manufacturers of EPEAT-registered computers agree to take back and responsibly recycle their products.

www.epeat.net
Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool
California Gold Sustainable Carpet Standard

The California Department of General Services developed the California Gold Sustainable Carpet Standard for purchase of carpet for new construction, renovations, leases, Contract Multiple Award Schedule (CMAS), and replacement.

**Product(s):** Modular tile and broadloom carpet

Chlorine Free Products Association (CFPA)

Independent, not-for-profit accreditation & standard setting organization promoting third-party certified chlorine-free products and services. Two certifications are issued: Processed Chlorine-Free (PCF) and Totally Chlorine-Free (TCF).

Product(s): Paper products, paper pulp

Attribute(s): No chlorine use, no old growth, PCW recycled-content (PCF only)

www.chlorinefreeproducts.org
ENERGY STAR

A joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Energy certifying energy-efficient products.

Product(s): Over 50 categories including: electronics, lighting, and more

www.energystar.gov
GREENGUARD

**Summary:** The GREENGUARD Environmental Institute is an independent non-profit, ANSI-authorized standards developer that offers three air emissions certifications: Indoor Air Quality; Children and Schools; and Building Construction.

**Product(s):** Over 15 product categories including: cleaners, office electronics, paints, and more

www.greenguard.org
Scientific Certification Systems (SCS)

- Single and multiple attribute certification programs
- Manufacturers can earn certification for one aspect of a product’s environmental impact (recycled content, indoor air quality) or multiple environmental performance attributes (toward life cycle assessment).

Product(s): Electricity, food and agriculture, manufacturing (including carpets and rugs), building and forest products (including FSC paper), fisheries and more.

http://www.scscertified.com
“FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) is a non-profit organization that encourages the responsible management of the world’s forests and sets standards that ensure forestry is practiced in an environmentally responsible, socially beneficial and economically viable way.”

To earn FSC certification, a product made of pulp or paper must pass through a complete “chain of custody” from an FSC-certified forest to and FSC-certified paper manufacturer, merchant and printer.

FSC-certification is seen as the gold standard

**Product(s):** Forest products, including paper

http://www.fsc.org/en/
Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)

- Fiber Sourcing (for forest owners and managers)
- Chain of Custody (for those who buy and use forest products)

Prove legal and sustainable sources of forest products are used.

Product(s): Forest products, including paper

http://www.sfiprogram.org
PEFC Certified

- Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification
- Privately owned Forest Certification

Product(s): wood and paper

http://www.pefc.org
ISO

The ISO 14000 environmental management standards exist to help organizations:

• Minimize how their operations negatively affect the environment (cause adverse changes to air, water, or land)

• Comply with applicable laws, regulations, and other environmentally oriented requirements

• Continually improve on the above.

www.iso.org
What you can do

- Reduce
- Use Tufts Marketplace to find green products
- Purchase at least 30% post consumer recycled content paper
- Purchase toner from Roxbury toner
- Utilize Tufts Surplus for new furniture
What you can do

• Make purchasing decisions based on quality and durability, not just price.
• Choose EPEAT Gold certified computers
• Use your networked copier for printing
• Purchase printers that have a double-sided option.
• Choose Energy Star appliances
What you can do

• Choose products with the highest percentage post consumer recycled content that you can find

• Talk about it to your:
  • Suppliers
  • Co-workers
  • Tufts Purchasing staff
  • People ordering on your behalf
Buy Green with Tufts Purchasing Partners

**Copiers**
- Toshiba machines energy-star compliant; double-sided printing now the default
- Recyclable toner cartridges, recycled plastic housing on Konica black machines
- Networked copiers use less energy and money than desktop printers

**Furniture**
- Recycled and recyclable furniture lines available through our partners
- Local manufacturer AIS available through Workplace with "lean manufacturing"

**Computers**
- All Tufts-recommended machines are rated EPEAT gold
- Other products can be verified at [http://www.epeat.net/PublicSearch.aspx](http://www.epeat.net/PublicSearch.aspx)
- Bulk orders can reduce emissions and packaging in shipping

**Moving**
- Request reusable crates and/or recycled packing materials
- Inquire about availability of reduced emissions and/or biodiesel vehicles
- Ask for discarded furniture to be donated or recycled

**Office**
- Search for recycled products on Staples' Marketplace site
- Look for small and/or woman-owned business certifications (SWE)
Office Supplies
- Search for recycled products on Staples' Marketplace site
- Look for small and/or woman-owned business certifications (SWE)
- Buy Roxbury Technology Corporation remanufactured toner cartridges

Paper
- Staples brand 30% recycled now priced at a discount
- Print & publications partners offer recycled options
- Follow "Tufts Prints Green" guidelines on the Sustainability website

Promo Products
- Imprint Express & Staples offer a variety of green promotional items
- Fair labor standards used by both partners

Scientific & Dental
- Search for "green" products on supplier websites (VWR, Fisher, Schein)
- Purchase products made of post-consumer waste or corn-based plastics
- Use VWR's pipette recycling programs for tips and trays

How to Buy
- Tufts Marketplace online business-to-business system: https://tufts.orgsupply.net
- P-card for small dollar transactions

More information is available at http://finance.tufts.edu/purchasing
A few words about paper...

- In FY10 Tufts purchased 264,351 lbs of paper
- Average recycled content: 33%
What can you do?

- E-file
- Use Green Print software
- Use print preview
- Widen the margins
- Print double-sided
- Print in draft mode
- Send documents electronically
- Add an eco-friendly reminder to your signature (e.g. think before you print)
What else can you do?

- Collect one-sided paper
- Designate a printer or printer drawer for drafts
- Use one-sided paper for notes. Staple or bind them into notebooks.
- Reuse envelopes for informal purposes
Additional Resources

• **Responsible Purchasing Network:**
  ◦ [http://www.responsiblepurchasing.org/purchasing_guides/all/standards/](http://www.responsiblepurchasing.org/purchasing_guides/all/standards/)

• **EPA:**
  ◦ [http://www.epa.gov/epp/pubs/labeling.htm](http://www.epa.gov/epp/pubs/labeling.htm)

• **Tufts Purchasing Department**
  ◦ [http://finance.tufts.edu/purchasing/](http://finance.tufts.edu/purchasing/)

• **Green Printing at Tufts**
  ◦ [http://sustainability.tufts.edu/?pid=109&c=48](http://sustainability.tufts.edu/?pid=109&c=48)