
The Town of Cheverly's Green Purchasing Policy

Purpose

To the greatest extent practicable the town of Cheverly will:

- Institute practices that reduce waste by increasing efficiency and effectiveness
- Purchase products that minimize environmental impacts, toxics, pollution, and hazards to worker and community safety
- Purchase products that include recycled content, are durable and long-lasting, conserve energy and water, use agricultural fibers and residues, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, use unbleached or chlorine free manufacturing processes, are lead-free and mercury-free, and use from sustainably harvested forests.

Specifications

a. Source Reduction

The Town shall institute practices that reduce waste and result in the purchase of fewer products whenever practicable and cost-effective, but without reducing safety or workplace quality.

b. Remanufactured products

The Town shall purchase remanufactured products such as laser toner cartridges, tires, furniture, equipment, and automotive parts whenever practicable, but without reducing safety, quality, or effectiveness.

c. Recycled Content Products

All products for which the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has established minimum recycled content standard guidelines, such as those for printing paper, office paper, janitorial paper, construction, landscaping, parks and recreation, transportation, vehicles, miscellaneous, and non-paper office products, shall contain the highest post-consumer content practicable, but no less than the minimum recycled content standards established by U.S. EPA Guidelines.

Energy and Water Savings

a. Where applicable, energy-efficient equipment shall be purchased with the most up-to-date energy efficiency functions. This includes, but is not limited to, high efficiency space heating systems and high efficiency space cooling equipment.

b. All products purchased by the Town of Cheverly and for which the U.S. EPA Energy Star certification is available shall meet Energy Star certification, when practicable. When Energy Star labels are not available, choose energy-efficient products

that are in the upper twenty-five (25%) of energy efficiency as designated by the Federal Energy Management Program.

c. The Town shall purchase water-saving products whenever practicable.

Toxics and Pollution

a. To the extent practicable, no cleaning or disinfecting products (i.e. for janitorial or automotive use) shall contain ingredients that are carcinogens, mutagens, or teratogens. These include chemicals listed by the U.S. EPA or the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health on the Toxics Release Inventory.

b. The use of chlorofluorocarbon-containing refrigerants, solvents and other products shall be phased out and new purchases shall not contain them.

c. All detergents shall be readily biodegradable and, where practicable, shall not contain phosphates.

Priorities

Nothing contained in this Policy shall be construed as requiring a department, purchaser, or contractor to procure products that do not perform adequately for their intended use, exclude adequate competition, or are not available at a reasonable price in a reasonable period of time.

Implementation

a. The Town Administrator shall encourage all City Departments to implement this Policy.

b. It is the desire of the Town to purchase environmentally preferable products from vendors whenever possible; however, to insure that maximum value is obtained for each public dollar spent, the Town cannot make purchasing decisions solely on the basis of the environmentally preferable status of a product.