



Sustainable Materials and Supplies Purchasing Policy

Introduction:

The materials, supplies, equipment, and furniture used in a building all contribute to the quality of the environment as a whole as well as the indoor environment of the building itself. The environmental impact of these products can be reduced by purchasing materials that have been salvaged, recycled, are rapidly renewable, contain certified wood, or are manufactured locally. SUNY ESF has committed to reducing the environmental impact of materials and supplies including office paper, office equipment, furniture, furnishings, and building materials through the purchasing criteria stated in this policy.

Compliance:

All purchased office paper, office equipment, furniture, furnishings, and building materials shall meet one of the following:

- Contain at least 70% salvaged material from off-site
- Contain at least 70% salvaged material from on-site (based on estimated market value).
- Contain at least 10% post-consumer or 20% post-industrial material.
- Contain at least 50% rapidly renewable materials.
- Constructed of Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified wood for LEED certified facilities.
- Constructed of FSC or Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) or American Tree Farm System (ATFS) certified wood for non LEED certified facilities.
- Contain at least 50% materials which are harvested and processed or extracted and processed within 500 miles of the building for which the materials are purchased.

ESF has established a policy to acquire only those products that have met the Energy Star specifications for energy efficiency and earned the Energy Star rating, when such a rating is available. When eligible products are to be purchased, the purchase specification must include the requirement that the product has earned the rating. In general, no products eligible for the Energy Star rating may be acquired by ESF, through purchase unless they have earned the rating.

Exceptions relative office paper, office equipment, furniture, furnishings will be handled on a case by case basis by the ESF Purchasing Coordinator. Exceptions relative to building materials will be handled on a case by case basis by the ESF Director of Physical Plant and Facilities.



Definitions¹:

Post-consumer Waste Recycling is the recycling of materials collected from consumer waste following consumer use of the products containing these materials.

Post-industrial Waste Recycling is the recycling of materials collected from industrial processes, including the collection and recycling of waste from industrial processes within the same manufacturing plant or from another manufacturing plant.

Rapidly Renewable Materials are materials that are planted and harvested in less than a 10-year cycle.

¹ Definitions from LEED Existing Buildings Version 2.0 Reference Guide Second Edition October 2006, Copyright 2006, U.S. Green Building Council.