

# ***Recycling and Waste Reduction*** Points: 10

## **46.) Government Environmentally Preferable Purchasing**

Implement environmentally preferable purchasing program that accounts for life cycle costs and gives preference to products that are recycled, recyclable and otherwise more environmentally friendly than traditional products.

### **DESCRIPTION OF MEASURE**

The local government has a policy in place that has environmental considerations in place for purchasing goods and services for use by the local government. Environmentally preferable goods are products or 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. Examples of products that can be included are green cleaning products, products made from recycled materials, and recyclable products.

### **DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR CREDIT**

- ✓ A copy of the policy with date of adoption

The Douglas County Board of Commissioners passed the Green Community Ordinance on November 3, 2009 which contains the following;

### ***F. Recycling and Waste Reduction***

**1. Green Purchasing policies.** It is the policy of Douglas County to purchase products which are recyclable or reusable or contain recycled materials if the quality and fitness of such products are equal to un-recycled products, including a price preference not to exceed 10% over the lowest price quoted by suppliers of comparable un-recycled products as determined by the user department. The product price comparison shall include life cycle cost considerations, when applicable. Each user department shall make every reasonable effort to purchase and use recycled products or those with recycled content whenever feasible to the extent such use does not adversely affect health, safety, or operational efficiency and effectiveness as determined by each user department, including but not limited to the items indicated on the next page. The term "recycled products" shall be construed to mean products which contain recycled materials or are reusable or recyclable, provided however, that recycled paper products must contain recycled materials.

- a. Each user department shall ensure that all purchases of copy, computer, and fax paper will contain a minimum of 30% recycled content (10% cap on price preference is not applicable). Furthermore, each user department shall strive to purchase paper products containing a minimum of 30% recycled content whenever feasible.
- b. Each user department shall consider, where feasible, the ability of products and/or their packaging to be reused, reconditioned, or recycled.

c. Each user department shall purchase, where feasible, products which minimize waste and toxic by-products in their manufacture, use, recycling, and disposal.

d. Included in this policy is a preference for EnergyStar rated appliances and equipment.

*Each user department shall purchase EnergyStar rated appliances and equipment subject to the following exceptions:*

*1. The user department documents that the designated EnergyStar product is not cost-effective over the life of the product taking energy cost savings into account (e.g. life cycle costs); or*

*2. The user department documents that no EnergyStar product is reasonably available that meets the functional requirements of the department.*

e. The 10% price preference shall be granted only if the fitness and quality of recycled products are at least equal to un-recycled products as determined solely by the user department. Product price comparison shall include life cycle cost considerations, when applicable.