

# Green Community Ordinance

## ***A. Green Building***

**1. Energy Star Certifications.** The following policies shall apply to all public buildings that are either new construction or renovation projects:

a. All new buildings constructed and owned by Douglas County shall be certified for New EnergyStar or EarthCraft Light Commercial construction. If achieving those certification levels adds costs exceeding \$10,000, approval shall be required by the Board of Commissioners.

b. All new buildings renovated by Douglas County shall be EnergyStar certified.

**2.** The following policies shall apply to all privately owned buildings that are either new construction or renovation projects:

a. Douglas County shall offer expedited plan review, plans processing and permitting for LEED, EarthCraft, and EnergyStar certified projects.

b. Douglas County shall offer expedited building and site inspections for LEED, EarthCraft, and EnergyStar certified projects.

## ***B. Energy Efficiency***

**1. Power down / Lights out.** It is the policy of Douglas County to turn non-emergency lights out and power down electronic equipment at the end of each work day. Therefore, all employees and building maintenance staff shall be required to turn off lights and all other non-essential electronic equipment when space within any county building is expected to be out of use for four or more hours.

**2. Consolidated Meetings.** In order to conserve resources, whenever there are less than four non-emergency, non-time sensitive items for vote on a regularly scheduled meeting agenda, those items will be placed into the next regularly scheduled meeting agenda and the first meeting shall be canceled.

**3. Lighting.** New light fixtures shall be installed with energy efficient bulbs and existing light fixtures shall utilize energy efficient bulbs when bulbs are replaced. LED lamps shall be utilized in traffic signals.

## ***C. Water Use Reduction and Efficiency***

**High Efficiency Fixtures** such as WaterSense certified toilets, urinals and faucets shall be used in all new public building installations.

## ***D. Trees and Greenspace***

**Benchmarks.** Douglas County shall continue to provide balanced growth by striving to achieve a ratio of 20 acres of greenspace per 1000 residents.

***E. Transportation and Air Quality***

**1. Green Fleet policy.** The County shall give preference to the purchase and use of fuel efficient and lowest emission vehicles and equipment that meet the intended use of the Fleet and are reasonably cost competitive over its useful life (e.g. life cycle cost). Additionally, the County will implement strategic fleet management practices to further reduce both the emissions and environmental impact of the Fleet. Through implementation of this policy, the County shall seek to decrease total emissions and the environmental impact of the Fleet.

Section I: Green Fleet Procurement:

A. Decrease Fleet Emissions

- a. The County shall attempt to purchase the lowest-emission and/or Hybrid/Alternative-fuel Fleet when it is in alignment with the intended use of the Fleet and is reasonably cost competitive over its useful life (e.g. life cycle cost).
- b. "Clean" fuels (such as compressed natural gas, ethanol, electricity and biodiesel) shall be used when feasible. Feasibility assessment will include considerations of vehicles or equipment able to utilize the "clean" fuel, vehicle costs, fuel availability, and the ability to utilize existing fueling infrastructure.
- c. The life-cycle cost analysis, which will include fuel, maintenance, and operational costs over the projected life of the vehicle, will be performed prior to purchase and will be communicated in the corresponding bid process as appropriate.

Section II: Green Strategic Fleet Management:

A. Optimize Fleet Size

1. The County shall seek to optimize its Fleet and consider the following for removal or reassignment:
2. Light duty vehicles (passenger cars, light duty pick up trucks and vans) that are driven less than 4,800 miles annually; and
3. Equipment that is used less than 240 hours annually. The availability of rental equipment to be used in place of such equipment will be taken into consideration.

B. Fleet reduction or reassignment will be performed according to the on-going operational needs of the user departments. The determination of which Fleet are to be reassigned shall be at the discretion of the County Administrator working in cooperation with user departments.

C. Decrease Vehicle Size

1. The County shall encourage the selection of vehicles of a smaller class-size whenever possible to achieve greater fuel efficiency and lower emissions. User departments shall select the smallest possible vehicle that will achieve its intended use.
2. Focus on Minimizing Vehicle Miles Travelled
3. Route optimization shall be employed, when applicable, to reduce travel time, distance, and fuel usage.
4. Encourage meetings at centralized locations to reduce necessary travel.

5. Encourage and enable alternate meeting methods, such as conference calls, to reduce the number of necessary trips.

**2. No Idling policy.** When using County vehicles, employees should strive to conserve fuel and reduce emissions by avoiding unnecessary idling. Therefore, except in traffic or on routine stops, employees should make every effort to prevent county vehicles from idling in excess of three minutes.

#### ***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.

**Recycled Product Listing**

**Plastic**

Carpet  
Construction wall coverings  
Corrugated drain pipe  
Culverts  
Curbside recycling containers  
Dollies  
Fence posts  
Fire engine cab mats  
Garbage can liners  
Ice scrapers  
Indoor/outdoor furniture  
Landfill caps & liners  
Benches  
Lumber  
Pallets  
Parking bumpers  
Plastic bags  
Playground equipment  
Refuse carts  
Shower dividers  
Speed bumps  
Traction mats  
Truck bed mats  
Urinal screens

**Paper**

Business cards  
Computer paper  
Corrugated boxes  
Copier paper  
Cover stock  
Envelopes  
Facial tissue  
Fax paper  
Legal pads  
Letterhead  
Linerboard  
Loose-fill packaging  
Mailing tubes  
Napkins  
Newsprint  
Padded mail bags  
Paper towels  
Poster board  
Toilet tissue  
Typing paper

**Rubber**

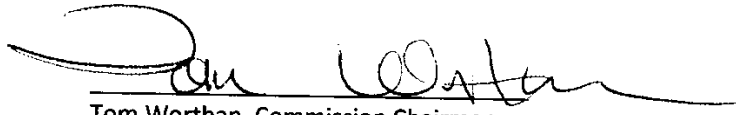
Dock bumpers  
Floor tiles  
Retread tires  
Rubberized asphalt  
Trailer bumpers  
Wheel chocks

**Other Materials**

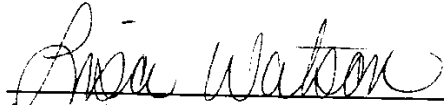
Acoustic ceiling tiles  
Cellulose fiber - insulation  
Compost  
Fly ash/concrete mixtures  
Glassphalt  
Reflective road striping  
Re-refined lubricating oil  
Road signs  
Roofing shingles

Green Community Ordinance

The Douglas County Board of Commissioners does hereby adopt the Green Community Ordinance on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November 2009.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom Worthan", written over a horizontal line.

Tom Worthan, Commission Chairman

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lisa Watson", written over a horizontal line.

Attest: Lisa Watson, County Clerk