



Fall 2017 Challenge: Green Purchasing

Whether you are purchasing supplies or equipment for office, operations or programs, all departments should use these guidelines to assist in purchasing of environmentally-preferred products and services where appropriate.

Look for the following:

- Made from renewable resources (ex: choosing paper over plastic)
- Made from recycled materials (recommend minimum 30% post-consumer materials)
- Recyclable (when you are done with it)
- Minimal packaging and buying in bulk
- Locally produced
- Low VOC ([volatile organic compounds](#)) furnishing, paints, etc.
- Low toxicity [cleaning products](#)
- [Energy Star rated](#) products and appliances

And, of course... Don't forget to bring a reusable (cloth) bag with you to the store to bring your purchases back to work.

More resources and information:

- [Search green products and services](#) at www.greenseal.org
- [EPA Sustainable Marketplace](#): Greener Products and Services
 - [Identify greener products and services](#)
 - [Understand the benefits of buying green](#)
 - [Make sense of ecolabels and marketing claims](#)