

Guiding Principles

Laws:

- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Section 6002 (RCRA, 42 USC 6962, 1976)
- Pollution Prevention Act (1990)
- Energy Policy Act (1992, amended 2005)
- Farm Security and Rural Investment Act, Section 9002 (May 13, 2002)

Executive Orders (EOs):

- **EO 13221**, Greening the Government Through Energy Efficient Standby Power Devices (July 31, 2001)
- **EO 13423**, Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management (January 24, 2007)

Regulations:

- Federal Acquisition Regulation: Part 23, especially, and Parts 2, 7, 11, 12, 13, 36, 37, 42, and 52. <http://www.arnet.gov/far/index.html>
- VA Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) <http://www1.va.gov/oamm/oa/ars/policyreg/vaar/index.cfm>

VA Policy and Guidance:

- VA Directive and Handbook 0052, Affirmative Procurement, Recycling, and Waste/Pollution Prevention Program (June 14, 2002)
- VA Directive 0057, VA Environmental Management System and Governing Environmental Policy (September 14, 2004)
- Information Letters 90-01-1, 049-02-11, 049-02-7, and 049-07-04

Go Shopping!

Comprehensive Procurement Guideline, EPA
www.epa.gov/cpg

Environmentally Preferable Products, EPA
www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp
<http://yosemite1.epa.gov/oppt/eppstand2.nsf>
www.epa.gov/oppt/epp/pubs/buying_green_online.pdf

Energy Star®, EPA www.energystar.gov/products

Non-Ozone Depleting Substances, EPA
www.epa.gov/ozone/snap/lists/index.html

Energy Efficient Products and Minimal Standby Power Devices, DOE
www.eere.energy.gov/femp/procurement/

Federal Fleet/Alternative Fuel Vehicles, DOE
www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/epact/

Department of Defense – DoD EMall
<https://emall6.prod.dodonline.net/main/>

Defense Logistics Agency – Defense Supply Center
www.dscpl.dla.mil/gi/general/light1.htm

BioPreferredSM (Biobased Products) Program, USDA
www.biobased.oce.usda.gov/fb4p/

GSA Environmental Products Guide
www.gsa.gov/Portal/gsa/ep/contentView.do?P=FCOEE&contEntId=9845&contentType=GSA_OVERVIEW

GSA Advantage![®] www.gsaadvantage.gov

Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) www.epeat.net

Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program (JWOD)
www.jwod.com

UNICOR, Federal Prison Industries
www.unicor.gov

CCR-Central Contractor Registration (Small Business)
www.ccr.gov/sba.asp

VetBiz Veteran-owned Business, www.vip.vetbiz.gov

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Green Purchasing

Recycled Content
Alternative Fuel Vehicles
Energy Star EPEAT
Biobased Alternative Fuels
Non-ozone depleting



Environmentally Preferable

Acquisition & Materiel Management
Environmental Affairs - Greening VA
www1.va.gov/oamm/recycle

What is “Green” Purchasing?

Both Congress and the President have directed federal agencies to be good stewards of the environment by conserving energy, water, and other natural resources. One way that we can be good stewards is to buy products and services that conserve our precious resources. This is generally referred to as **“green” purchasing**.

Under new EO 13423, “green” purchasing includes the following components:

- Recycled content products, also known as **Comprehensive Procurement Guideline (CPG)** items¹
- Energy Star® and energy-efficient products; standby power devices²
- Alternative fuel vehicles/alternative fuels²
- Biobased products³
- Non-ozone depleting substances¹
- Environmentally preferable products (EPP)¹
- Low or no toxic or hazardous chemicals
- Electronics with environmentally preferable attributes (**EPEAT**)

An **Affirmative Procurement Plan (APP)** is an agency’s plan for buying **green** products and services. VA’s APP (Directive and Handbook 0052) addresses the purchase of recycled content, Energy Star®, biobased, and other green products.

Where Can I Learn More?

To learn more about the VA and Federal-wide **“green” purchasing** program, visit:

☒ OA&MM, Environmental Affairs-Greening VA

<http://www.va.gov/oamm/recycle>

☒ Office of the Federal Environmental Executive

<http://www.va.gov/ofee.gov/gp/gp.htm>

¹ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

² EPA and Department of Energy (DOE)

³ U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Why Buy “Green”?

The Federal government spends more than \$200 billion on goods and services each year. The **“green” purchasing** program minimizes negative environmental effects through the use of environmentally-friendly products.

Buying green helps to:

- Conserve natural resources and minimize our environmental “footprint”
- Improve worker safety and health
- Reduce Federal energy use, greenhouse gas emissions, and waste to landfills
- Stimulate new markets and create jobs
- Reduce liabilities
- Provide potential cost savings **\$\$\$**

It also is...

- The law and national policy; increasingly easier to do; *and*, it closes the loop on the recycling process.

Who is Required to Buy “Green”?

The **“green” purchasing** requirements apply to **all** Federal agencies **and** their contractors. The requirements pertain to simplified acquisitions and large purchases, as well as to both direct purchases of products and to support services contracts.

These requirements **also** apply to federal purchase cardholders and to micro-purchases.

VA is committed to being a good steward of the environment.



How Do Your Purchases Impact the Environment?

Do you purchase, contract, or initiate a request for goods or services that include...

- Paper or non-paper office products?
- Computers or other electronic equipment?
- Batteries?
- Appliances?
- Awards or plaques?
- Signs?
- Paint?
- Light bulbs?
- Vehicles, gasoline, oil, or tires?
- Park benches or picnic tables?
- Janitorial supplies or services?
- Landscaping products or services?
- Construction products or services?

Your purchases could impact the environment by...

- Containing hazardous or toxic chemicals that, if spilled or released, could pollute the air, soil, or groundwater
- Depleting the availability of natural resources if virgin or raw materials are constantly used
- Creating more waste in landfills that could pollute the soil and groundwater

Work to...

- Ensure awareness of and compliance with all **“green” purchasing** requirements
- Substitute **“green”** products for virgin products to the extent practicable
- Use recycled content office products
- Purchase Energy Star® and energy- and water- efficient products
- Find alternatives for products with excessive packaging and those with toxic chemicals
- Buy EPEAT-registered (green) computers
- Consider the entire life cycle of the product
- Include **“green” purchasing** in your EMS

Always think “green” at the start of the acquisition process.