

Agenda and Meeting Notice Crystal Environmental Quality Commission

Thursday, July 16, 2015, 7:00 PM
Crystal City Hall, Conference Room A
4141 Douglas Drive North, Crystal, MN 55428

Agenda Items:

1. Call to order
2. Approval of May, June 2015 Meeting Minutes
3. Rain gardens (list of rain gardens included in meeting packet)
4. Sustainable purchasing policy (examples from Falcon Heights, Oakdale, and Burnsville included below)
5. Other Business
6. Adjournment

GreenStep Cities requires the following steps be taken to achieve the “purchasing” best practice:

Adopt an environmentally preferable purchasing **policy** or administrative guidelines/practices directing that the city purchase at least:

- a. **EnergyStar** certified equipment and appliances and
- b. **Paper** containing at least 30% post-consumer recycled content.

Example from Falcon Heights

City of Falcon Heights Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy

The goal of this policy is to encourage and increase purchasing that reflects the city’s commitment to sustainability. Benefits of the policy include:

- Conserving natural resources
- Minimizing environmental impacts such as pollution and use of water and energy
- Identifying environmentally preferable products and distribution systems
- Setting an example for residents and businesses in the City of Falcon Heights

The following policies are to be followed by the City of Falcon Heights:

Recycled Paper Products

- 1) Printing paper, office paper, and paper products will contain the highest post-consumer content practicable, but no less than minimum recycled content

standards established by the US EPA Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines.

Energy and Water Savings

- 1) Where applicable, energy-efficient equipment will be purchased with the most up-to-date energy efficient functions.
- 2) All appliances and products purchased by the City and for which the US EPA Energy Star certification is available will meet Energy Star certification. Typically, this would include lighting systems, exhaust fans, water heaters, computers, exit signs, and appliances such as refrigerators, dishwashers, and microwave ovens.
- 3) The city will purchase water-saving products whenever practicable. This includes, but is not limited to, high-performing fixtures like toilets, waterless urinals, low-flow faucets and aerators, and upgraded irrigation systems. This policy is subject to the requirements and preferences in the Municipal Contracting Law (MN Statutes 471.345) and all other applicable laws and ordinances.

Example from Oakdale

City of Oakdale Environmental Purchase Policy

Recycled Paper Products and Recycled-Content Products

The City of Oakdale will purchase paper products containing the highest post-consumer content practicable, but no less than 30% recycled-content for copy paper, the minimum recycled content standard established by the US EPA Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines. The city shall purchase other products made with recycled material whenever possible and economically feasible.

Energy Saving Products

All appliances and products purchased by the city for which the US EPA Energy Star certification is available will meet Energy Star certification, provided such products are available and financially feasible. Examples include lighting systems, exhaust fans, water heaters, computers, exit signs, refrigerators, dishwashers, and microwave ovens.

Water Saving Products

Water-using products purchased by the city will meet the US EPA's WaterSense certification standards when such products are available and financially feasible. Examples include toilets, waterless urinals, low-flow faucets and aerators, and upgraded irrigation systems.

Example from Burnsville

ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING

I. PURPOSE AND NEED FOR POLICY

The goal of this policy is to encourage and increase purchasing that reflects the City's commitment to sustainability. This Policy is adopted in order to promote:

- *Conserving natural resources
- *Minimizing environmental impacts, such as pollution
- *Supporting strong recycling markets
- *Increasing the use and availability of environmentally preferable products that protect the environment
- *Rewarding manufacturers and vendors that reduce environmental impacts in their production and distribution systems

- *Creating a model for successfully purchasing environmentally preferable products that encourages other purchasers in our community to adopt similar goals
- *Lowering overall costs by addressing full cost accounting (purchase, maintenance, disposal, staff time, and labor)
- *Leveraging buying power

II. POLICY

The following guidelines are to be followed by the City of Burnsville:

1. Recycled Paper Products and Recycled-Content Products

Per Minnesota Statute 16B.122 and per the Federal Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) requirements, the City of Burnsville will endeavor to purchase paper products containing the highest post-consumer content practicable, but no less than 30% recycled-content for copy paper (which is the minimum recycled content standard established by the EPA Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines: www.epa.gov). The City should purchase other products made with recycled material whenever possible and economically feasible.

2. Waste Minimization

The City should buy in bulk whenever practicable to reduce packaging. Packaging that is reusable, recyclable or compostable is preferred, when suitable uses and programs exist.

3. Energy Saving Products

All appliances and products purchased by the City, for which the US EPA Energy Star certification is available, will meet Energy Star certification, provided such products are available and financially feasible (www.energystar.gov). This would include lighting systems, exhaust fans, water heaters, computers, exit signs, and appliances, such as refrigerators, dishwashers, and microwave ovens.

4. Water Saving Products

Water saving products purchased by the City will meet the WaterSense certification when such products are available and financially feasible (www.epa.gov). This includes, but is not limited to, high-performing fixtures, such as toilets, waterless urinals, low-flow faucets and aerators, and upgraded irrigation systems.

Policy No. 5.235

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5. Cleaning Products

Cleaning products purchased by the City will meet Green Seal, EcoLogo, and/or U.S. EPA Design for the Environment cleaning product standards, if such products are practicable, available, and perform to an acceptable standard.

III. PROCEDURE

When purchasing products and services for the city, staff will:

- Ensure that specifications support the use of reusable, recycled, or environmentally preferable products by following these guidelines.
- Evaluate environmentally preferable products to determine the extent to which they may be used by the department and its contractors.
- Facilitate data collection on purchases of designated environmentally preferable products by the department in order to determine the effectiveness of the products and services.
- Use a standard of accepting a 10% increased cost for these items. Authorization from the City Manager is required if the additional cost to buy the environmentally preferable product is greater than \$1,000.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY

All City departments are responsible for implementation of this policy and to ensure their respective employees are fully aware and supportive of the City's policy to purchase environmentally preferable goods and services. City staff will implement these guidelines in conjunction with the city's normal purchasing procedure and with consideration of the above price differential.

V. AUTHORITY

Administrative implementation of policy.