

EPP Standards and Certifications

Standards and certification programs are helpful tools for identifying environmentally preferable products. Writing bid documents for environmentally preferable products can be simplified greatly by incorporating specifications from these programs.



Safer Choice is a U.S. EPA program that helps buyers identify cleaning and other products that perform well, are cost-effective, and are safer for the environment.
<http://www2.epa.gov/saferchoice>



Energy Star is a federal program that certifies energy-efficient products and appliances.
www.energystar.gov



EcoLogo has issued standards for over 150 product categories.
<http://www.ecologo.org/en/>



Electronic Products Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) helps purchasers evaluate and select computers, laptops, and monitors based on environmental attributes.
www.epeat.net



Forest Stewardship Council certifies forest products and operations that meet standards for environmental impacts, labor rights, legal issues, and indigenous rights.
<https://us.fsc.org/>



Green Seal develops standards and certifies products that meet environmental criteria in many product and service categories. www.greenseal.org



Green-e certifies renewable energy sources and companies that use renewable energy.
<http://www.green-e.org/>



Greenguard is a nonprofit organization that certifies low emission products, including interior building materials, furnishings, and finishes used in daycare centers and K-12 schools. www.greenguard.org



US Environmental Protection Agency Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines recommend recycled content levels for a wide variety of products.
<http://www3.epa.gov/epawaste/consERVE/tools/cpg/>



US Green Building Council uses its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) system to rate buildings for high performance and sustainability.
<http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CategoryID=19>



US National Organic Standards certify that ingredients and production methods have been verified as meeting or exceeding USDA standards for organic production.
http://www.ota.com/organic/us_standards.html

Learn more about standards and certifications at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/epp/>

For more information, contact Tina Simcich at (360) 407-7517 or tina.simcich@ecy.wa.gov.

EPP Resources

State agencies, local governments, and educational institutions are purchasing responsibly to help meet their goals on climate change, solid waste, and reducing toxic threats in the environment. Check out these websites for green contract and product information, EPP policies and other helpful tools:



City of Seattle Environmentally Preferable Purchasing <http://www.seattle.gov/city-purchasing-and-contracting/city-purchasing/green-purchasing>



Department of Ecology Buy Green, Save Green

Learn about environmentally preferable products, standards, certifications, and more. <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/epp/>



Department of Enterprise Services Office of State Procurement

Search for EPP products and services available on contracts administered by the Office of State Procurement.

<http://www.des.wa.gov/services/ContractingPurchasing/Pages/default.aspx>

EPPnet

An electronic listserv for purchasers looking for information about EPP products, specifications and policies. [https://nerc.org/projects/current-projects/eppnet-\(environmentally-preferable-purchasing\)-listserv](https://nerc.org/projects/current-projects/eppnet-(environmentally-preferable-purchasing)-listserv)



Federal Resources for Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

<http://www.fedcenter.gov/programs/buygreen/>



King County

King County Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

http://www.kingcounty.gov/operations/procurement/Services/Environmental_Purchasing.aspx



Responsible Purchasing Network (RPN)

RPN offers EPP purchasing tools, webinars, and technical assistance.

www.responsiblepurchasing.org



Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council

Convenes buyers, suppliers, and public interest advocates to develop programs that simplify, standardize, and target sustainable purchasing efforts by large institutions.

<https://www.sustainablepurchasing.org/>



U.S. Department of Environmental Protection (EPA) Green Products

<http://www.epa.gov/epp/>

EPP-Related Laws and Directives

RCW 39.26.160 Procurement of Goods and Services states that in determining the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, an agency may consider best value criteria, including whether the bid considers human health and environmental impacts.

RCW 39.26.280 Procurement of Goods and Services states that the Department of Enterprise Services shall establish policies that provide a preference for products and products in packaging that does not contain polychlorinated biphenyls.

Executive Order 04-01 [Persistent Toxic Chemicals](#)

Executive Order 05-01 [Establishing Sustainability and Efficiency Goals for State Operations](#)