



Sustainable Procurement Workshop

- Purchasing Policy

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Triple Bottom Line framework was used to establish our sustainable purchasing policy

- The Sustainability Commission recognized that sustainable purchasing should consider the inter-dependent impacts on economic prosperity, social responsibility, and the environment.

(Triple Bottom Line Framework-Elkington)

- We are committed to promoting this approach to improve our community.

Need for a sustainable purchasing policy:

- The human footprint - our use of natural resources for everything we grow, eat, drink, make, package, buy, transport and throw away - is outpacing the earth's capacity to sustain us.
- Challenging economic times require us to search for all the tools we can find to be more competitive.
- Looking at struggling businesses in our community helps us recognize our social responsibility to use local companies and disadvantaged businesses to sustain our community.

It is important to develop a written sustainable purchasing policy because:

- “Legitimizes” changes in traditional purchasing procedures.
- Verifies senior management support for sustainable purchasing.
- Educates staff members and the organization about the importance of buying less polluting products from less polluting companies.
- Documents a vision for balancing price, performance, social and environmental considerations for making purchasing decisions
- Reinforces the purchasing department’s role in achieving the organizations other environmental objectives.



Benefits of a sustainable purchasing policy:

A holistic approach of evaluating your purchasing to increase efficiency, reduce waste, and finding ways to support communities through local suppliers to make our county more successful.



Benefits of sustainable purchasing

- A sustainable purchasing policy is a tool to help guide our buying decisions to consider environmental, social and economic factors.
- Being an efficient or profitable organization and being a good steward of the environment are goals that can work together for greater social responsibility.



More benefits of sustainable purchasing

Sustainable purchasing will improve your organization.

- Lower your costs
- Reduce waste
- Drive innovation
- Increase productivity
- Help customers save money on products and services
- Provide consumers the information they need to assess the sustainability of products and services.
- It will create local economic development through use of local suppliers.



It will help customers because they desire:

- Products and services that are more efficient
- Products that last longer and perform better for O/M
- To know the product's or services entire lifecycle
- To know product/service materials are safe
- Products that are well made
- Products or services produced in a responsible way

Providing customers with sustainable product or service choices can also reduce the impact on the environment and help them save resources and money.

The Toledo-Lucas County Sustainability Commission will provide:

- Sustainable purchasing policy available in January
- The free electronic template policy will be located on the commission web page. www.lucascountygreen.com

Future training workshops on sustainable purchasing

– speakers from government and business

Information included in the sustainable purchasing policy:

- Electronic document contains resources
 - policy and contract language
 - web page links for product search info/ calculators
- Allows you to tailor the document to your organization
 - start with small goals to establish success
 - build with larger goals toward greater impact

Information included in the sustainable purchasing policy:

-Topics

- Purpose for the policy
- Assessing current purchasing practices
- Implementation advice
- Establishing priorities for change
- Information for sustainable product searches
- Training and awareness
- Specifications
- Policy evaluation



Assessment of purchasing practices

This includes opportunities to evaluate where products and services are:

- Purchased
- Manufactured
- Packaged
- Transported
- Used
- Disposed, recycled or reused
(life-cycle analysis)



Sustainable Purchasing is and is not....

- Sustainable purchasing is a tool that can help you deliver on your business mission. Using energy saving equipment, reducing waste and using sustainable products and services can help take costs out of the products and services you provide to the public.
- Sustainable purchasing isn't a stand-alone issue separate from your business. It's not an abstract or philanthropic program.



Conclusion

- Sustainable purchasing should be built into our organizations because it makes economic, environmental and social sense.
- Now more than ever we have a responsibility and an opportunity to make a difference in our community with sustainable purchasing.
- This approach will give us a much deeper understanding of the opportunities to make your organization's products and services more sustainable.