

Green Procurement as a Tool for Waste Reduction

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Topics

- What is green procurement
- Incorporating waste reduction into procurement
- Training sources
- Army tools
- Installation challenges
- Addressing the challenges

The Evolution of the Waste Can



Consumption and Waste Generation

- Waste generation is dictated by consumption
 - How much we consume
 - What we consume
- To reduce waste generation, we must make changes in what we purchase and use.



Reducing Consumption = Reducing Waste

What do we mean by “Green Procurement”?

- Showing preference for purchasing products that are:
 - Made with Recycled Content
 - Made with Biobased Products
 - Energy and Water Efficient
 - Alternative Fuels or Vehicles
 - Renewable Energy Sources
 - Sustainable Building Materials
 - Lacking in Ozone-Depleting Substances (ODS) and Priority Chemicals
 - EPEAT-registered Electronic Equipment
 - Environmentally Preferable



Green Procurement

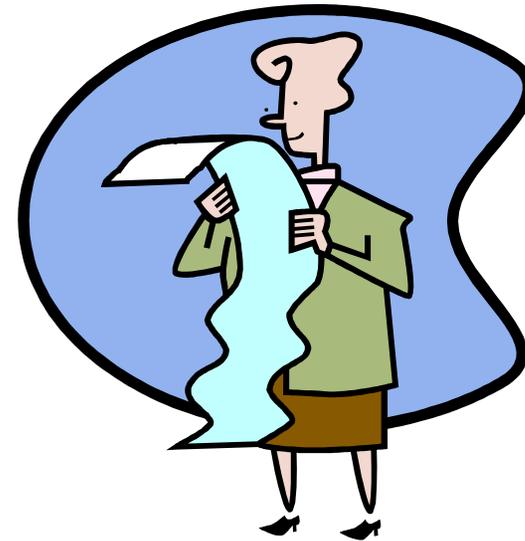
- There are specific requirements for the purchase of products that have/are:
 - Recycled content (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Executive Orders (EO) 13423 and 13514, and the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR))
 - Biobased (Farm and Security and Rural Investment Act, EO 13423, and FAR)
 - Energy efficient (Energy Policy Act of 2005 and EO 13423 and 13514)



EPA-Designated Products under the Buy Recycled Program

Product Categories:

- Construction
- Landscaping
- Non-paper Office Products
- Paper and Paper Products
- Parks and Recreation
- Transportation
- Vehicular
- Miscellaneous



Examples of Designated Items under the BioPreferred Program

- Adhesive and mastic removers
- Hand cleaners/sanitizers
- Biodegradable containers
- Fertilizers
- Sorbents
- Graffiti and grease removers
- Laundry products
- Bathroom and spa cleaners
- De-icers
- Films
- Lip care products
- Biodegradable films
- Hydraulic fluids
- Biodegradable cutlery
- Glass cleaners
- Greases
- Dust suppressants
- Carpets
- Carpet and upholstery cleaners



Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

- Non-mandatory – going beyond the required program elements
- Covers a variety of product attributes such as eliminating or reducing waste associated with the product



Product/Contract Specifications for Waste Reduction (Examples)

- Bulk dispensers for condiments in dining facilities
- Bulk dispensers for shampoo, soap, lotion in housing or restrooms
- Take-back specifications for purchases of hard to dispose items such as furniture, appliances, batteries
- Multipurpose office machines & networked printers
- Low/no waste printer inks



Product/Contract Specifications for Waste Reduction (Examples)

- Pallet take-back
- Bulk purchases with less individual packaging
- Selecting/specifying products with less packaging
- Selecting/specifying products that can be recycled when ready for disposal
- Selecting/specifying products that are repairable or more durable
- Avoiding/prohibiting certain products or product materials (e.g., styrofoam, ozone-depleting substances)

GP Training

■ Online

- Defense Acquisition University – CLC046 – Green Procurement
- <http://www.fedcenter.gov/training/#acquisition>
 - Lists variety of online training sources

■ Face-to-face

- USAPHC – ½ classes tailored to different target audiences
- DLA – 2-day comprehensive class on GP

Army Installation Green Procurement Program Development Guide

- Published as a PARC policy alert #11-16 on 1 December 2010
- Comprehensive guidance manual on the steps to be taken to fully implement an effective Green Procurement Program
- Contents include:
 - Applicability
 - Regulatory Drivers
 - Establishing a GP Team
 - Planning
 - Implementation and Operation
 - Checking and Corrective Action
 - Management Review
 - Useful Tools and Resources



PARC = Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting

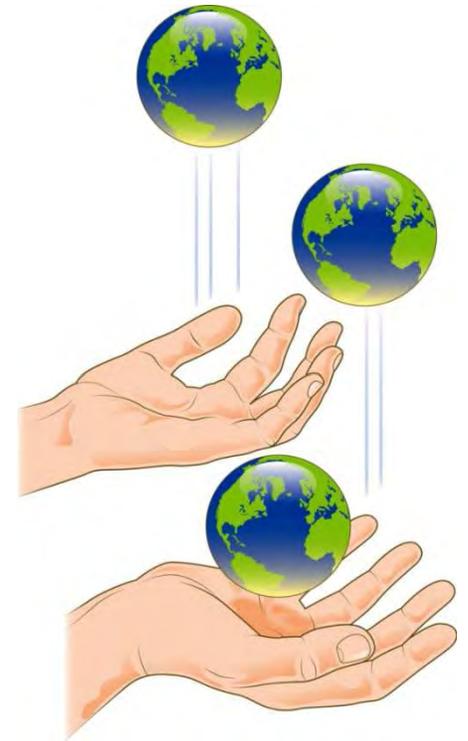
Army GP Initiatives for FY12

- Development of Green Procurement “Quick Guides” for several different target audiences
- Development of promotional materials such as posters and one-sheet desktop guides
- Holistic waste reduction consultations at food service facilities – addressing GP as a tool in waste reduction or diversion



Installation Challenges

- Fully engaging the acquisition community – assumption of responsibility
- Misunderstanding and lack of awareness of the regulations
- Reaching the requirements generators/specification writers
- Difficult to measure, monitor, and report green purchases
- Perceptions that green products are inferior and more expensive
- Fostering a culture in which all employees take responsibility for sustainable purchasing



Installation Challenges

- Contractor compliance
- Subcontractor compliance
- Non-appropriated fund activity compliance



Addressing the Challenges

- Provide training to all affected personnel – be sure to include specification writers, NAF representatives, and key contractor representatives
- Have an installation GP Team
- Ensure the GP Manager has
 - time to take necessary actions and champion the program
 - knowledge of the regulations and requirements to field questions and support GP initiatives

Addressing the Challenges

- Gain support of upper level managers
- Actively promote the GP Program
- Use available resources such as the Army Installation GP Program Implementation Guide, Fedcenter and other informational websites, “green” features of online ordering systems



Addressing the Challenges



- Develop and implement a formal GP Plan which will
 - Assign responsibilities
 - Establish operating procedures
 - Standardize installation-level recordkeeping and reporting procedures
 - Establish checking and corrective action procedures
 - Provide an annual management review checklist
 - Include a list of prioritized action items

Eliciting Behavior Change...

What Works?

- Role models
- Face-to-face education and promotion
- Grass roots involvement
- Upper level management training
- Upper level management support
- A champion(s)
- A strong sense of community
- Setting goals/using metrics
- Getting commitments

