

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.

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**Energy Star** is a federal program that certifies energy-efficient products and appliances. [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)



**Environmental Choice** is Canada's program to certify environmental products. It has issued standards for over 150 product categories, many available in Washington state. <http://www.ecologo.org/en/>



**Electronic Products Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT)** helps purchasers evaluate, compare, and select computers, laptops, and monitors based on environmental attributes. [www.epeat.net](http://www.epeat.net)



**Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)** certifies forest products and operations that meet standards for environmental impacts, labor rights, legal issues, and indigenous rights. <http://www.fsc.org/en/>



**Green Seal** develops standards and certifies products that meet environmental criteria in many product and service categories. [www.greenseal.org](http://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](http://www.greenguard.org)



**International Sanitary Supply Association (ISSA) Cleaning Management Standard** is a consensus-based tool for the cleaning industry. [http://www.issa.com/?id=cleaning\\_industry\\_management\\_standard\\_cims](http://www.issa.com/?id=cleaning_industry_management_standard_cims)



**Social Accountability International (SAI)** develops standards for humane working conditions and audits companies and contractors in many countries for performance on this issue. <http://www.sa-intl.org/>



**US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines** recommend recycled content levels for a wide variety of products. <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/index.htm>



**US Green Building Council (USGBC)** 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 by an accredited certification agency as meeting or exceeding USDA standards for organic production. [http://www.ota.com/organic/us\\_standards.html](http://www.ota.com/organic/us_standards.html)

More information on standards and certifications is available at the Ecology EPP website: [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/beyondwaste/epp/stand\\_certifications.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/beyondwaste/epp/stand_certifications.html).

# Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Resources

State agencies, local governments, school districts, colleges, and universities can make a difference on climate change, solid waste, and toxic materials in the environment by purchasing responsibly. Many resources and guides are available to help.

## City of Seattle Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

<http://www.cityofseattle.net/environment/purchasing.htm>.

## Department of Ecology

Offers resources, trainings, and technical assistance to make Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) easier. Learn about environmentally preferable products, standards and certifications, state EPP directives, and more by visiting our website at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/beyondwaste/epp.html>.

## Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Network

An electronic listserv for purchasers looking for information about EPP specifications, policies, vendors, pricing, and performance. <http://www.nerc.org/eppnet/index.html>.

## Federal Resources for Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

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

## General Administration Office of State Procurement

EPP products and services are available on contracts that the Office of State Procurement administers. Go to <http://www.ga.wa.gov/Purchase/index.html>.

## King County Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

[http://www.kingcounty.gov/operations/procurement/Services/Environmental\\_Purchasing.aspx](http://www.kingcounty.gov/operations/procurement/Services/Environmental_Purchasing.aspx).

## Pollution Prevention Resource Center - EPP Rapid Research Service

Offers five hours of free research time on EPP-related issues. <http://pprc.org/research/epp>.

## Responsible Purchasing Network

A network dedicated to bringing together EPP purchasing tools, market education, and peer networking opportunities. [www.responsiblepurchasing.org](http://www.responsiblepurchasing.org).

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

<http://www.epa.gov/epp/pubs/about/about.htm>.

## EPP-Related Laws and Directives:

### Sustainable Practices by State Agencies (Executive Order 02-03)

[www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/governorlocke/eo/eo\\_02-03.htm](http://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/governorlocke/eo/eo_02-03.htm).

### Executive Order 05-01 ESTABLISHING SUSTAINABILITY AND EFFICIENCY GOALS FOR STATE OPERATIONS 2005: [http://www.governor.wa.gov/execorders/eoarchive/eo\\_05-01.pdf](http://www.governor.wa.gov/execorders/eoarchive/eo_05-01.pdf).

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

[www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/governorlocke/eo/eo\\_04-01.htm](http://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/governorlocke/eo/eo_04-01.htm).

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