

Go Green While Saving Green

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Environmental Mission Statements

“Mecklenburg County Government will operate in a manner that conserves and protects our air, water and land resources; become a model of environmental stewardship for local governments, businesses, and industry in our region, and; use and apply the County’s existing and future resources wisely for the benefit of its citizens. “

“The City of Charlotte will become a national leader in environmental initiatives to preserve our natural resources while balancing growth with sound fiscal policy.”

The Evolution of “Green”

2001 Recycled Product and Waste Reduction Policy

2004 Environmental Leadership Policy

2005 Environmental Cabinet

2007 Energy Management Plan

2007 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction

2007 Purchasing Guide

2008 Fleet Emissions Policy

2009 Policy for Sustainable Facilities

2010 Fleet Asset Management

2010 Environmental Purchasing Policy

Environmental Cabinet

Strategic Focus Area Plan

- Promote environmental best practices**
- Protect natural resources**
- Make sound land use decisions**
- National leader in successful stewardship**
- Lead by example – environmental practices**

Green Teams

Environmental Purchasing Coordinators:

- **Develop Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Guide**
- **Establish Contracting and Purchasing Trends**
- **Research, Evaluate and Compile Product Information**
- **Sponsor Educations Forums**
- **Provide Training**

Getting Started

Research available data

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

King County. WA

NACo

**National Institute of Government
Purchasing (NIGP)**

Green Seal

Responsible Purchasing Network (RPN)

Survey employees

Environmental Purchasing Guide

Environmental Attributes

| Recycled Content | Biodegradable | Air Quality (low VOC) |
|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Conserves Energy & Water | Less Hazardous | Prevents Waste |

Third Party Certifications

Product Categories

Potential impacts

Things to consider

Availability and sources

Benchmark Products

Office Supplies

Paper Products

Toner/Ink Cartridges

Carpet

Oils/Lubricants

Playground equipment

Janitorial cleaning supplies

Computer monitors

Intern Study Program

Wake Forest and UNC-Charlotte

- **Research:**
 - Existing products and performance
 - Cost accounting methods
- **Deliverables:**
 - Analysis of 3 products
 - Benchmark three best-in-class agencies
 - Recommend product analysis methodology
 - Design educational program and process

Performance Criteria

| Product Category | Criteria |
|---|---|
| Paper Towels Compared recycled content with virgin products | Absorption rate Cost Ease of disposal Frequency of replacement rolls |
| Carpet Compared 4 carpets with recycled contents. | Durability Cost ANSI compliance Aesthetics |
| Toner/Ink Cartridges Compare new with remanufactured and soy-based cartridges. | Quality of copies Cost Number of copies |

Environmental Purchasing

2010 Annual Report

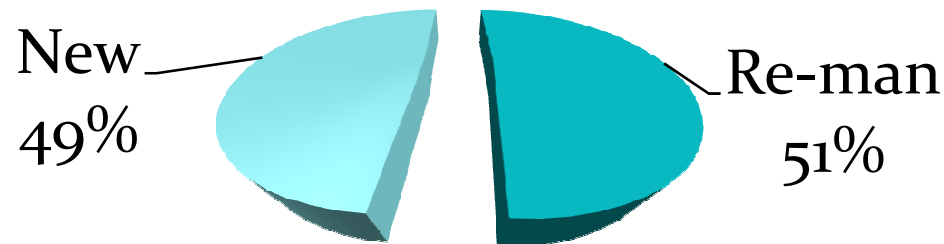
- **Benchmarked Products**
 - **27% Increase in Environmentally Preferred Products**
- **Hybrid Vehicles**
 - **40 vehicles in current fleet**
 - **12 electric vehicles on order**

Printer/Toner Cartridges

Remanufactured 1325

New (OEM) 1273

Total 2598



SAVINGS = \$ 23,000 annually

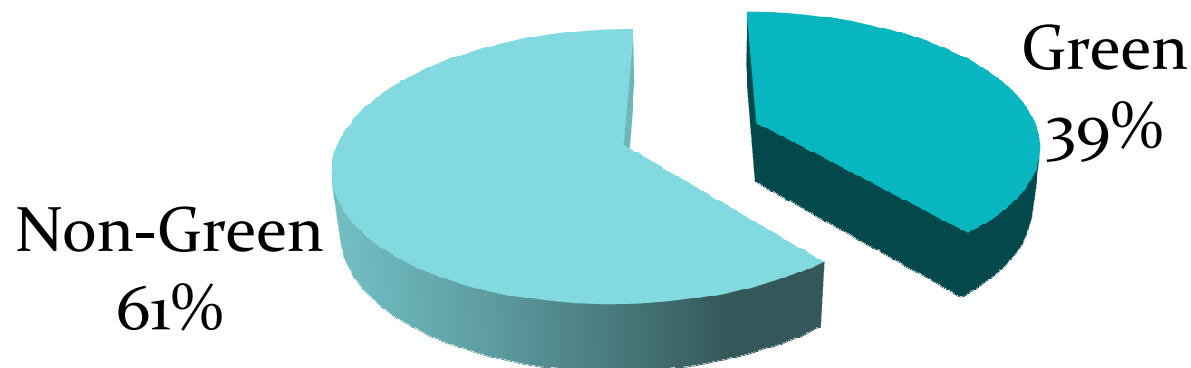
Reduced 2,633 cu. Ft. of permanent waste;
14.6 football fields of landfill space

Office Supplies

Recycled Content \$215,030.13

Virgin materials \$337,940.65

Total \$552,970.78



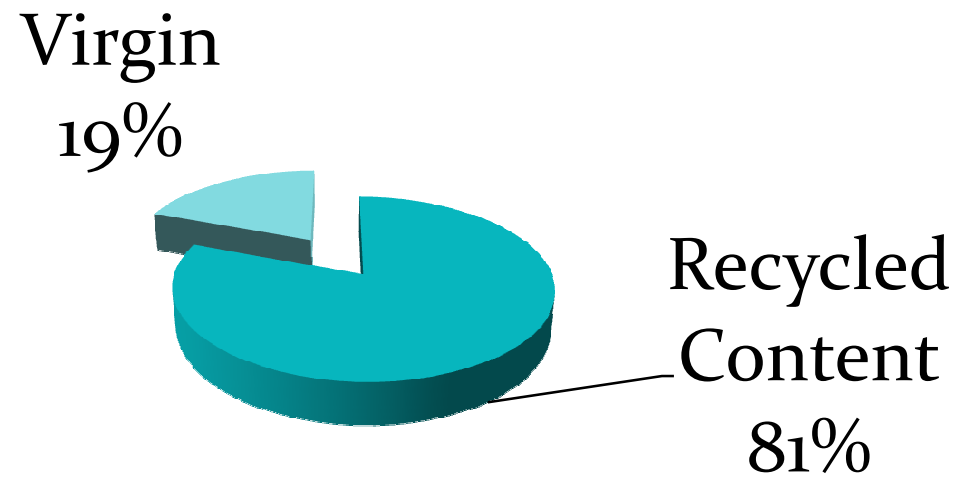
158 Green Alternative Products = \$14,96.98 Savings

Copy Paper

30%-Recycled Content 411 cases
Virgin 1848 cases
Total 2259 cases



IKON – Multifunction Machines

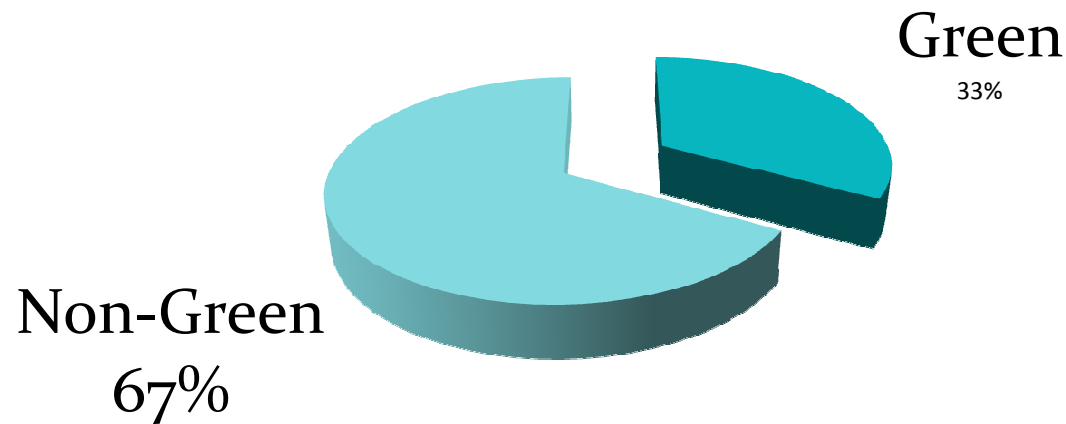


Janitorial Cleaning Products

Cleaning Products

Green 33%

Non-Green 67%



Green = biodegradable, low VOC, non or less toxic, bio-based

Environmental Purchasing Policy

Sustainability based purchasing program

- **Product life cycle cost**
- **Remanufactured toner/ink cartridges**
- **Eliminate packaging**
- **Re-use products**
- **Electronic communication**
- **Preferred Office Supplies**
 - Paper products (copy paper, legal pads)
 - File folders
 - Post-It Notes
 - Dividers and Indexes
 - 3-Ring binders

Challenges

Decentralized purchasing structure

Deficiencies in current financial system

Lack of cost/benefit analysis

Dependency on vendors

Lessons Learned

Don't reinvent the wheel

Be patient

Don't rely solely on environment claims

**Search proven technologies and
resources**

Accomplishments

Recycle 3.5 tons of glass bottles per month

Reuse 3.6 tons of coffee grounds per month

Recycle 33 tones of Cardboard per month

Reduced ozone forming emissions by 13.4 tons in 2008

Computer monitor energy program avoided 1226 tons of carbon dioxide emissions (30% improvement)

Recycling program diverted 2,400 tons of paper waste

Diverted 15,000 tons of clean concrete demolition waste from disposal

Green purchases saving estimated:

991 tons of virgin wood saved

2,244 lbs of air pollutants avoided

216,701 kilowatt hours of energy saved

369,978 gallons of water saved

Spreading the News

Communications

Employee awareness

Vendor Forums

Citizens awareness

Market Wise Survey

“E” News



QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU!

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