

# GREEN

## Selective Purchasing Policy Guide



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

**Issue Description:** Many organizations have a desire to lessen their environmental footprint and move toward being “green.” Depending on one’s location, an organization will be able to implement this in a variety of ways. Even small steps repeated many times will make a difference along the way toward a sustainable environment.

**Sample wording:** “XXX (synod/congregation/organization) believes we are to be stewards of God’s creation and therefore choose to make environmentally friendly decisions in our purchasing. To that end we will:

(list items you will implement [examples might be compact fluorescent lights, recycled paper, biodegradable trash bags- see resources for suggestions]

or

list items and activities you will implement in this endeavor [examples might be using pitchers of water rather than bottled water, mulching, china, mugs or paper cups for coffee rather than Styrofoam, local purchasing to lessen transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, consider green building materials and methods in all renovations]”).

### **Resources:**

Center for Health, Environment and Justice -

<http://chej.org/campaigns/besafe/resources/precautionary-policy-clearinghouse/green-purchasing-toolkit/>

Coop America - <http://www.coopamerica.org/PDF/ProcurementPolicy.pdf>

Environmental Protection Agency - <http://www.epa.gov/oppt/epp/>

Tasty Catering- <http://www.tastycatering.com/about/green.cfm>

Abitibi recycled office paper- <http://www.paperretriever.com>

Green Buildings- <http://www.epa.gov/greenbuilding/tools/funding.htm#guides>

### **Examples:**

University of Northern Iowa -

[http://www.vpaf.uni.edu/obo/purchasing/guidelines\\_procedures.shtml#lr](http://www.vpaf.uni.edu/obo/purchasing/guidelines_procedures.shtml#lr)

City of Oakland- <http://www.oaklandpw.com/AssetFactory.aspx?did=2738>