



# GREEN PURCHASING

BETWEEN THE THEORY AND CURRENT REALITY

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# GREEN PURCHASING

This seminar will explore the latest theories and concerns in the “green” environment, including but not limited to PFOAs and PFNAs, plastics and the need for added concern. Additionally, the presenters will lay out the current “realities” of Green Purchasing in New Jersey with some suggestions on implementing some “easy” green procurement concepts.

# GREEN PURCHASING THEORY

The background features a light green, stylized illustration of a sustainable city. It includes a central globe, solar panels, modern buildings, and silhouettes of people riding bicycles. The overall theme is environmental friendliness and green technology.

- Recycling
- Carbon footprint
- Reduce waste
- Reduce toxicity

# ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERRED PURCHASING

- WHAT IS EPP/”Green Purchasing”

Generally, EPP is the purchasing of products or services that have a positive effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing products or services that serve the same purpose. NASPO

# BUT WAIT THERE'S MORE

- Other Considerations
  - Social Responsibility
  - Larger local units have unique considerations (jails, hospitals/health clinics)
  - Commitment of and to the Community

# WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF GREEN PURCHASING?

- Reduce carbon footprint
- (Lyons) Reduce negative impact of health and the environment
- Waste Reduction
- Increased worker safety
- Long term reduction in labor and purchasing costs
- Conserve resources

# GREEN PRODUCT PURCHASING

- Dr. Kenneth Lyons
- Fall 2018
- ““Green Product” means any commodity or service that has a lesser or reduced negative effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing commodities or services.”

# CHALLENGES TO GREEN PHILOSOPHY

The background features a stylized green cityscape with buildings, solar panels, trees, and people riding bicycles, all set against a light green background with a faint world map.

- Make up of local unit
- Economy itself
- Balancing price and performance, and environmental considerations.
- Time in conducting the procurement process
- Selling the down line costs

# PURCHASING CONCERNS



- Raw Materials
- Manufacturing
- Transportation
- Use
- Disposal

# THEORETICAL AREAS

- RECYCLING/DISPOSAL
- ENERGY EFFICIENCIES
- “SAFE” PRODUCTS
- REDUCTION OF USE OF NON-SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS (plastic)
- REDUCTION OF POLLUTANTS (macro/micro)

# CHALLENGES

- At times, asking stakeholders to choose less convenient sources to help something for which they may not see the immediate effect
- Avoiding inaccurate or deceptive "greenwashing" claims such as "earth-friendly," "eco-safe," "all natural," or "ozone-safe"
- Avoiding the sales pitch. Environment is the latest greatest item. Free (it pays for itself)
- Creating the level procurement playing field with green products

# PLASTICS

The background features a light green, stylized illustration of a sustainable city and environment. It includes a globe in the center, a city skyline with a wind turbine, a person riding a bicycle, and various green leaves and plants. The overall theme is environmental friendliness and sustainability.

- Nano plastics
- Micro Plastics
- Macro Plastics
  
- Are they a threat?
- How do you protect against them?

# SOBERING STATISTIC

- People, across the world unwittingly consume roughly 5 grams of plastic each week in the course of daily life, or about the weight of a credit card... That's about 250 grams per year – more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  pound of plastic every twelve months.

# WATER

- PFOA and some similar compounds can be found at low levels in some foods, drinking water, and in household dust. Although PFOA levels in drinking water are usually low, they can be higher in certain areas, such as near chemical plants that use PFOA

# WATER PFOAS PFNAS

- EPA: “Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals that includes PFOA, PFOS, GenX, and many other chemicals. PFAS have been manufactured and used in a variety of industries around the globe, including in the United States since the 1940s. PFOA and PFOS have been the most extensively produced and studied of these chemicals. Both chemicals are very persistent in the environment and in the human body – meaning they don’t break down and they can accumulate over time. There is evidence that exposure to PFAS can lead to adverse human health effects.

# ITS EVERYWHERE

- PFNA has been detected in polar bears in concentrations over 400 parts per billion. PFNA was the perfluorinated chemical measured in the highest concentration in Russian Baikal seals.



# PFOAS PFNAS

- Food packaged in PFAS-containing materials, processed with equipment that used PFAS, or grown in PFAS-contaminated soil or water.
- Commercial household products, including stain- and water-repellent fabrics, nonstick products (e.g., Teflon), polishes, waxes, paints, cleaning products, and fire-fighting foams (a major source of groundwater contamination at airports and military bases where firefighting training occurs).

- Workplace, including production facilities or industries (e.g., chrome plating, electronics manufacturing or oil recovery) that use PFAS.
- Drinking water, typically localized and associated with a specific facility (e.g., manufacturer, landfill, wastewater treatment plant, firefighter training facility).
- Living organisms, including fish, animals and humans, where PFAS have the ability to build up and persist over time.

# WHAT CAN WE DO?

- Stayed informed
- Understand what is toxic with short-term long term consequences
- Be aware
- Of PFNA and PFOAs
- ASK QUESTIONS

# QUESTION



# GREEN PURCHASING REALITY

- The theory often does not match the reality
- Everyone theoretically wants to reduce waste, recycle, choose sustainable materials and recourses, save energy, reduce our carbon footprint and create a safer, healthier environment for our employees and residents but...
- **Easiest to choose the low hanging fruit.**



# Changes in Office Procedures

## ❖ Convert to an Electronic Format

- Paper requisitions
- Paper Purchase Orders (multi color pages)
  - Signatures on purchase orders
  - Delivery receipts
  - Invoices
- Paper bid packets
- Replace plastic covers, bindings etc.

# Changes in Office Procedures

- Place wastepaper recycling boxes near printers and copier machines
- Use mugs/glasses/dishes in the office rather than disposables
- Water fountains with bottle fills

[www.infobloom.com/what-is-green-procurement.htm](http://www.infobloom.com/what-is-green-procurement.htm)



# Changes in Office Procedures

- Ecofriendly copier machines
  - Toner cartridges that cut down on waste
  - Use both sides of the paper
  - A Workhorse copier instead of personal printers

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\*not an endorsement

# Procurement of Office Supplies

- Made from environmentally friendly products
- “Minimal Packaging”
- 100% recycled paper
  - copier paper
  - envelopes
  - business cards
  - FED EX reusable
- Avoid peanut/plastics



# Procurement for Office Supplies

- Staple less staplers
- Refillable ink cartridges
- Recycled water bottle pens
- Recycled Tree-Free #2 pencils
- Recycled paperclips
- Recycled binders
- Recycled self-stick notes
- Rechargeable batteries



# Procurement for Buildings and Grounds

- Install only energy-efficient light bulbs
- Local government energy audit
- Make use of natural light
- Install occupancy-sensor lighting
- Keep windows and doors closed when running any HVAC



# Procurement for IT

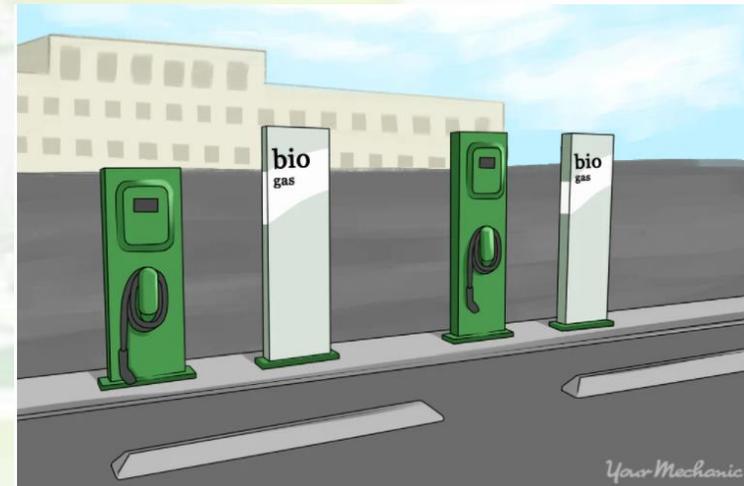
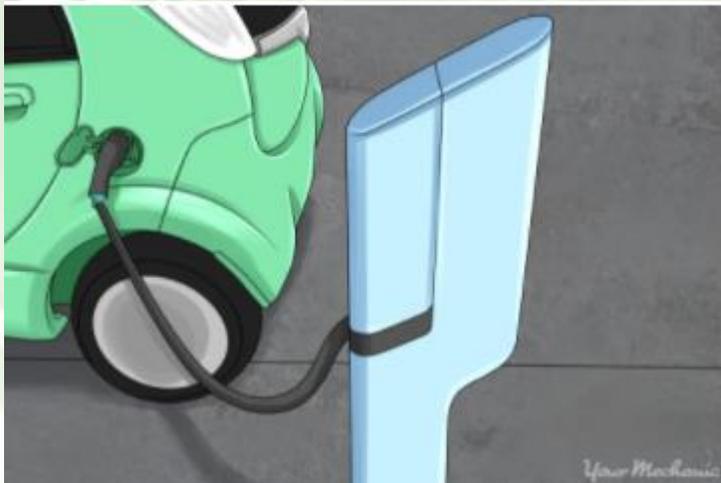
- Replace desktops with laptops
- Unplug appliances after turning them off
- Eliminate screen savers



# Procurement of Vehicles

- Diesel
- Biodiesel
- Hybrid
- Electric

How to Choose an Environmentally Friendly Vehicle



# ASK for Green



According to Richard Goode "5 simple ways to create a green procurement program"

When issuing Bids be deliberate in asking your potential suppliers to provide you with the most environmentally sound product, with the highest quality, at the lowest price.

Language in bids that ask for the most energy-efficient product at the same or lower price than a traditional alternative. You won't get it if you don't ask.

# QUESTION



# THE END

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