

San Francisco Green Purchasing Priorities List 2009-2012

Precautionary Purchasing Ordinance, City and County of San Francisco

Approved by the SF Commission on the Environment on 9/22/09

The categories below are considered highest priority by the SF Dept. of the Environment (SFE) Green Purchasing Program.

They were selected based on consultations with other City departments and the use of the "Targeted Product Category Scoresheet," which was developed through a public process in 2006. For the products and services below, SFE may develop green purchasing specifications, add products to the SF Approved Catalog, and/or require City Depts. to buy only products in the [SF Approved Catalog at www.sfenvironment.org/sfapproved](http://www.sfenvironment.org/sfapproved). (Listed in alphabetical order)

Product/Service Category (alphabetical order)	Justification	Key Environmental & Health Issues
Bags (plastic & compostable)	The City purchases fairly large amounts of plastic bags, and also requires compostable bags to comply with municipal composting regulations.	Creates Non-Recyclable Wastes, Involves Inefficient Resource Consumption, Has Air Quality/Global Environmental Effects (ozone depl/climate/smog), Consumes Non-Renewable Resources
Carpet	Purchased by City in high dollar amounts - usually as part of project or service contracts. The City's Green Building Ordinance requires attention to the kind of carpeting purchased due to potential offgassing and also the large contribution to the solid waste stream. Many recycled-content, recyclable, and minimum maintenance carpet products exist.	Creates Non-Recyclable Wastes
Computer servers	I.T. equipment is one of the largest City contracts. City has adopted EPEAT standard for personal computers and Climate Savers/Energy Star for servers; however, the latter do not include blade servers. Opportunity to implement City's resolution on manufacturer take-back/recycling for equipment and packaging, and to attain large savings through thin client servers.	Contains Carcinogen/Reproductive Toxin/Endocrine Disruptors, Has Other Human Health Effects/IAQ incl. Asthma /Safety, Contains Persistent, Bioaccumulative, Toxic Ingredients (PBTs), Creates Non-Recyclable Wastes, Involves Inefficient Resource Consumption Has User Community Effects (EJ/Children/Women/Sensitives)
Dairy products	The Mayor's Executive Order on Healthy & Sustainable Foods requires attention to local and sustainably produced food purchases. The citywide dairy contract is a good opportunity to achieve this with no extra cost.	Has User Community Effects (EJ/Children/Women/Sensitives), Has Air Quality/Global Environmental Effects (ozone depl/climate/smog), Involves Animal Effects (Aquatic Toxicity, Habitat & Other) Involves Agrichemicals / GMOs
Food containers	City Composting Resolution promotes reusable, recyclable, or compostable food service ware.	Styrofoam Creates Non-Recyclable Wastes, Consumes Non-Renewable Resources
Graffiti removers	These products are extremely hazardous and widely used by City staff. Safer alternatives are needed.	Contains Carcinogen/Reproductive Toxin/Endocrine Disruptors, Has Other Human Health Effects/IAQ incl. Asthma /Safety
Janitorial cleaning products	Environmental specifications for cleaning products are constantly evolving, both nationally and locally. These products also expose workers and occupants to toxic hazards.	Contains Carcinogen/Reproductive Toxin/Endocrine Disruptors, Has Other Human Health Effects/IAQ incl. Asthma /Safety, Has User Community Effects (EJ/Children/Women/Sensitives), Has Air Quality/Global Environmental Effects (ozone depletion/climate/smog), Manufacture & Use Involves Animal Effects (Aquatic Toxicity, Habitat & Other)
Janitorial disinfectant	Very high-volume product that is overused. The City is currently completing specifications for safer disinfectants, which previously were among the most hazardous chemical products purchased.	Contains Carcinogen/Reproductive Toxin/Endocrine Disruptors, Has Other Human Health Effects/IAQ incl. Asthma /Safety, Has User Community Effects (EJ/Children/Women/Sensitives), Has Air Quality/Global Environmental Effects (ozone depletion/climate/smog), Manufacture & Use Involves Animal Effects (Aquatic Toxicity, Habitat & Other), CCSF has not Already Addressed Products in the Category
Janitorial equipment	The use of certain equipment such as microfiber products can dramatically reduce chemical use, water use, and worker injuries. Use of electric hand dryers saves paper and reduces costs.	Product Use Involves Inefficient Resource Consumption, Has User Community Effects (EJ/Children/Women/Sensitives)

Product/Service Category (alphabetical order)	Justification	Key Environmental & Health Issues
Janitorial floor care products	The City has not yet fully addressed certain high-volume products such as hard floor care systems. These are among the most hazardous chemical products used, with widespread exposure potential.	Contains Carcinogen/Reproductive Toxin/Endocrine Disruptors, Has Other Human Health Effects/IAQ incl. Asthma /Safety, Has User Community Effects (EJ/Children/Women/Sensitives), Has Air Quality/Global Environmental Effects (ozone depletion/climate/smog), Manufacture & Use Involves Animal Effects (Aquatic Toxicity, Habitat & Other), CCSF has not Already Addressed Products in the Category
Janitorial paper products	The existing city contract will need to be renewed and updated, mostly relating to recycled content and chlorine-free whitening.	Product Creates Non-Recyclable Wastes, Product Use Involves Inefficient Resource Consumption, Manufacture & Use Involve Animal Effects (Aquatic Toxicity, Habitat & Other)
Janitorial Services	Language is currently under development through the City's Green Building Program to ensure that contracted janitorial services use green cleaning techniques and purchase safer products.	Contains Carcinogen/Reproductive Toxin/Endocrine Disruptors, Has Other Human Health Effects/IAQ incl. Asthma /Safety, Has User Community Effects (EJ/Children/Women/Sensitives), Has Air Quality/Global Environmental Effects (ozone depletion/climate/smog), Manufacture & Use Involves Animal Effects (Aquatic Toxicity, Habitat & Other), CCSF has not Already Addressed Products in the Category
Lighting (lamps, ballasts, etc.),	The existing lighting contract requires updating to reflect advances in energy efficiency and lamp life, and to purchase lower-mercury level lamps.	Product Contains Persistent, Bioaccumulative, Toxic Ingredients (PBTs), Product Creates Non-Recyclable Wastes, Product Use Involves Inefficient Resource Consumption, Product Use Has Air Quality/Global Environmental Effects (ozone depl/climate/smog) Manufacture Has Source Community Effects / Trade Issues
Office supplies	A wide variety of recycled-content and least-toxic products are covered by the City's office supply contract, which affects almost all City employees.	Product Contains Carcinogen/Reproductive Toxin/Endocrine Disruptors, Product Has Other Human Health Effects/IAQ incl. Asthma /Safety, Product Contains Persistent, Bioaccumulative, Toxic Ingredients (PBTs), Product Creates Non-Recyclable Wastes
Paints - architectural	There are existing national standards that could potentially be adopted by City painters to reduce worker hazards and VOCs, and to increase use of recycled paints.	Product Has Other Human Health Effects/IAQ incl. Asthma /Safety, Product Has User Community Effects (EJ/Children/Women/Sensitives), Product Use Has Air Quality/Global Environmental Effects (ozone depl/climate/smog)
Street cleaning detergents	These products are used in large amounts and have not yet been addressed with green purchasing standards.	Product Has Other Human Health Effects/IAQ incl. Asthma /Safety, Product Use Involves Inefficient Resource Consumption, Product Has User Community Effects (EJ/Children/Women/Sensitives), Manufacture & Use Involve Animal Effects (Aquatic Toxicity, Habitat & Other)
Synthetic turf	The use of synthetic turf involves tradeoffs between various environmental impacts and public health benefits, which should be better addressed.	Product Has Other Human Health Effects/IAQ incl. Asthma /Safety, Product Contains Persistent, Bioaccumulative, Toxic Ingredients (PBTs), Product Creates Non-Recyclable Wastes, Product Use Involves Inefficient Resource Consumption, Product Has User Community Effects (EJ/Children/Women/Sensitives), Product Use Has Air Quality/Global Environmental Effects (ozone depl/climate/smog), Manufacture Consumes Non-Renewable Resources
Telecommunications equipment	Hazards have been associated with cellular phones that could potentially be addressed by purchasing standards, right-to-know efforts, or other measures.	Product Contains Carcinogen/Reproductive Toxin/Endocrine Disruptors, Product Has Other Human Health Effects/IAQ incl. Asthma /Safety, Product Creates Non-Recyclable Wastes
Toner and ink cartridges	Recycling toner cartridges reduces solid waste and saves money. Performance issues are currently being addressed with a new contract but an educational campaign is required.	Product Creates Non-Recyclable Wastes, Product Use Involves Inefficient Resource Consumption, Product Use Has Air Quality/Global Environmental Effects (ozone depl/climate/smog)
Weed barriers and mulches	The City uses a variety of cloths and geotextiles to inhibit weed growth and reduce herbicide use. These require rationalization in their environment impacts.	Product Creates Non-Recyclable Wastes, Product Use Involves Inefficient Resource Consumption