

ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERRED PURCHASING (EPP) POLICY OPTIONS

Implement a purchasing policy of 35-100% post-consumer recycled products.	
[R] Bags for retail/take-out (biodegradable or paper)	
Copy, computer, and fax paper	
Envelopes	
Business Cards	
Folders and other paper products	
Toilet paper	
Napkins	
Flatware (biodegradable)	
Paper plates	
Paper Towels	
Guest Checks	
Register tape	
Tissues	
Placemats	
Coasters	
Garbage bags (biodegradable instead of LLPE or LLDPE)	
Menus	
Sponges	
Implement a purchasing policy that guarantees the use of environmentally preferred cleaning products.	
[R] Chlorine-Free Bleach (must eliminate all chlorine use)	
Multi-Purpose cleaner	
Dish/Dishwasher soap	
Glass cleaner	
Toilet and sink scrubs	
Laundry Detergent	
Hand soap	

* [R] = Required



DIY ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERRED (EP) AND LOCAL PURCHASING

DO IT YOURSELF GUIDE TO ESTABLISHING AN ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERRED (EP) PURCHASING POLICY

✧ Long term thought over short term profit ✧



Factoid
if every household replaced one 48 oz bottle petroleum based dish liquid with a vegetable based one, we could save 203,000 barrels of oil

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WHAT IS EP PURCHASING?

Your business everyday makes decisions on what to buy and where to get it, ordering everything from food and produce, office supplies and electronics to cleaning and personal care products. Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) addresses the environmental and social costs associated with these purchases, with the intent to shift spending away from products that harm the environment and employees towards healthier alternatives.

The quality and availability of such products has increased as the harmful costs of conventional products are becoming better understood. It's now easier to find EP alternatives to cleaners, plastics, Styrofoam, and office supplies in

stores island-wide, or request them if not yet being offered. Purchasing such products can also save money since many of these products are concentrated in order to reduce waste associated with shipping and packaging. After dilution, products can be up to 1/10 the price of conventional alternatives.

Simultaneously, with consumer environmental awareness increasing, there is more demand for businesses that are setting environmental and social standards



Where to Find EP Products

Paper Products/Cleaning Supplies:

- Ventures & Associates
- Jimmy Sales
- Hopaco
- Hoku Whole Foods
- Ace Hardware

- Cost-U-Less

To-Go Containers:

- Aloha, We Deliver!
- Earthsurge
- Ventures and Associates
- Jimmy Sales

Office Supplies:

- Hopaco
- Inkspot

Local Food

- Your local farmers



Start small and work your way up

Change starts somewhere, so start at Tier 1 by committing to the few EP options your establishment uses most, or can best afford. Once decided upon, follow through by switching from virgin paper products to recycled content, from traditional cleaning products to EP others, and end the use of chlorine bleach, Styrofoam, and plastic bags.

The first step is calling your current provider, such as Jimmy Sales, Ventures Associates, Inkspot, or Hopaco, and asking what EP options they have. If they don't have the items you need and are unable to provide you with them after your request, look at other stores on island such as Hoku Whole Foods, Cost-u-Less, or Ace Hardware.



Buy Recycled-content Office Supplies

There are recycled alternatives for folders, staplers, binders, notebooks, calendars and more. In some catalogues, there's even an index specifically created for "green" products. Look for 100% Post Consumer (PC) recycled products, or 30% at least.

Buy Recycled-content Paper Products

For toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, and more, there is an alternative to virgin paper. If every household in the US replaced just one roll of virgin fiber toilet paper with 100% recycled ones, we could save 423,900 trees! Imagine if every business replaced all their toilet paper...

Buy Better To-go Containers

Food service to-go items such as Styrofoam and non-recyclable plastics are deteriorating our island and global environment. To be part of the GBP, all participants agree to stop using such containers. You can easily replace these items with biodegradable options or #1 or #2 plastics, as well as offering more "for-here" options for those dining on the premise.

Although there can be a small increase in costs, the GBP stands firm in its commitment to end the use of Styrofoam and wasteful, non-recyclable containers. Contact Jennifer at *Aloha, we Deliver!* (631-9138) or *Earthsurge* (651-3452) for a personal evaluation and recommendations to help switch your products over. Ventures also now offers biodegradable options.

Refuse Plastic bags

Unable to be recycled and or biodegrade, plastic will never leave the environment once tossed, and worldwide use of plastic bags is pegged up to 1 trillion per year! To be part of the solution, GBP participants agree to stop using plastic bags.

To substitute, replace with biodegradable options (sold through *Aloha, we Deliver, Earthsurge, Jimmy Sales* and *Ventures*), paper bags or boxes, and support the use of personal canvas bags

Cleaning Products

We know many of the chemicals we use are damaging the fragile ecosystems around us and even damaging ourselves. Yet, it seems so hard to know what else to use to reverse the problems at hand while still maintaining a clean facility.

Fortunately, it's becoming easier than ever to find EP alternatives to conventional cleaning products that are naturally derived, non-polluting and made from renewable resources. EP cleaning products work just as well while creating a non-toxic environment.



Suggestions

Holy Cow is a cleaning product recommended by such businesses as The Blossoming Lotus and Organic Green Cleaning. You can purchase their all-purpose cleaner, glass cleaner, degreaser, and cleaning concentrate at Ace Hardware stores as well as Cost-U-Less.

Chlorine bleach can be replaced with hydrogen peroxide based bleach or borax. Borax (sodium borate) is a natural mineral that kills mold and bacteria. An alternative to bleach, it deodorizes, removes stains and boosts the cleaning power of soap. Hydrogen peroxide is a germicidal agent composed only of water and oxygen and is considered the worlds safest all natural effective surface sanitizer. Hydrogen peroxide kills microorganisms by oxidizing them, which can be best described as a controlled burning process. When hydrogen peroxide reacts with organic material it breaks down into oxygen and water.

Other cleaning alternatives include such brands as Citra-Solv, Seventh Generation, Bio-Kleen, EcoVer, Bon Ami, Citrus Magic, and more, sold at specialty stores island wide. If the place from which you order most frequently doesn't offer an eco-option, you request they begin to carry it. Most likely, if they have a guaranteed outlet for the product, they will stock it.

FAQ;

Are my traditional cleaners really that bad for me?

Yes! Why else would there be such an array of warnings on the bottles? Caution labels on general cleaning products may warn of anything from life-threatening fumes when mixed with other cleaning products, to warnings not to get in contact with skin or eyes, may cause birth defects, or to remind you to dispose of the chemical as “hazardous waste” when finished.

Is my purchase of EP cleaners really going to make that much of a difference?

Yes! For example, if every household replaced one 48 oz bottle petroleum based dish liquid with a vegetable based one, we could save 203,000 barrels of oil. Or, if every household replaced one 64 oz bottle of chlorine bleach with a chlorine-free bleach, we would prevent 10.9 million pounds of chlorine from entering our environment. Every purchase makes a difference.

But I thought EP cleaners are much more expensive.

Although it may at first appear they are more expensive, many EP cleaners may in fact be cheaper per “real ounce”, or their ounce after dilution. This is because many EP cleaners are sold as concentrates in order to save extra shipping and packaging wastes. Moral of the story: although the upfront cost may be more, per use the cost can be dramatically less.

But what if I don't see any of these products?

Look for products that advertise phosphate or chlorine free formulas, are biodegradable, and include information about being made from recycled material and cruelty free. If they're not carried, request that they be.



Buy Local Food First!

Perhaps the most important part of sustainable purchasing, this line item not only decreases pollution associated with packaging and transportation, but it directly affects the livelihood of Kaua'i residents and impacts the environmental health of our island! Supporting local agriculture results in more open spaces, better livelihood for food producers, and increased health for island residents.

The best way to buy local produce is to partner with a local farmer to get what you need, when you need it. Go to malamakauai.org to post your needs to the farming community, link up, and start supporting local farmers.

Sunshine Markets

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
12:00 pm	3:00 pm	3:00 pm	4:30 pm, Keneke, off Kilauea (Lighthouse) Road	3:00 am	9:00 am	
Koloa Knudsen Ball Park Side Parking Lot	Kalaheo Neighborhood Center	Kapaa New Town Ball Park Parking	3:00, Hanapepe Park	Vidinha Stadium Parking Lot, Līhu'e	Kekaha Neighborhood Center	

Private Markets

Monday	Tuesday				Saturday	
3:00 pm	2:00 pm				9:30 am	
Kukui Grove Shopping Center	Waipa, Hanalei				Hanalei Community Center and Park	