

FAQs about MV's Green Procurement Procedures

1. What is Green Procurement?

Also referred to as "Buying Green" or "Environmentally Preferred Purchasing" Green Procurement is defined as the buying of goods or services that are less harmful to the environment and to our health, than other available goods and services that serve the same purpose.

2. How does this differ from MV's Sustainable Procurement Procedures?

MV's Sustainable Procurement Procedures focus on the conduct of suppliers and contractors as it relates to their environmental and social practices, while Green Procurement focuses on the environmental attributes of the products and services purchased.

3. Why did we establish Green Procurement Procedures?

It is important to note that there was already a substantial amount of "green buying" occurring within MV, however, the Green Procurement Procedures standardize specifications and/or requirements to ensure we are consistent in how we practice Green Procurement.

4. When did it come into effect?

October 2009.

5. What is covered within this program?

The following goods and services are covered:

- Cleaning Products and Services
- Office supplies
- Printing Services
- Contractor's Equipment
- Hired Diesel Powered Vehicles and Equipment
- Specifications for New Diesel Powered Vehicles and Equipment
- Life Cycle Analysis for the Purchase of Vehicles and Equipment
- High Volume Fly Ash Concrete

6. How does this work in practice?

Whenever an employee is making a purchase for the goods and/or services covered by the Green Procurement Program, the applicable green specifications/requirements must be used to define the product or service.

7. How do these procedures benefit the region?

Incorporating green buying, as appropriate, is an ongoing and collaborative process toward a sustainable region.

8. What are the cost implications?

No additional costs have been experienced to date, but we continue to monitor.

9. Are further changes anticipated?

Yes, further changes are anticipated. Our commitment to buy green continues to be an evolutionary process; future changes, while undefined at this time, are expected.

10. Do municipalities within MV have similar procedures?

Some municipalities have similar practices.

11. Will the procedures apply to all purchases of goods and services covered within the Green Procurement Practices?

Yes, the green specifications that have been developed within this program apply to all purchases of the items and services listed.