"Going Green – What is it?"

"Going Green" is one of the terms encountered now on a daily basis, it is often referred to as "Sustainability." Sustainability is defined as: of, relating to, or being a method of harvesting or using a resource so that the resource is not depleted or permanently damaged. It is also known as "recycling" and "Green Purchasing."

It is the ability to secure our needs without depleting the available resources for future generations and their necessity to meet their needs.

Central Piedmont Community College Procurement strives to purchase the most sustainable products available within approved state guidelines and to procure recycled products whenever possible.

**Independent Agencies that Certify the Sustainable Efforts of our Vendors**

http://www.greenguard.org

The **GREENGUARD** Environmental Institute (GEI) is an industry-independent, non-profit organization that oversees the GREENGUARD Certification Program. As an ANSI Authorized Standards Developer, GEI establishes acceptable indoor air standards for indoor products, environments, and buildings.

The GREENGUARD Certification Program™ is an industry-independent, third-party testing program for low-emitting products and materials.
Scientific Certification Systems (SCS) created its first indoor air quality standard SCS-EC10, in 2004. Whether at home, work, or school, most of us spend up to 90% of our time indoors. That statistic—aside from reminding us to get out and play—suggests that when it comes to our health, we should be just as concerned with the quality of our indoor environment as with the quality of the air and water outside. Some conditions common to indoor spaces, including poor ventilation and high humidity, can serve to increase the concentration of certain pollutants. Likewise, the chemical pollutants emitted by different materials inside buildings may interact, exacerbating contamination issues.

The BIFMA Sustainability Guidelines are a roadmap for office furniture manufacturers and suppliers of all size to establish and/or expand their environmental management system to include sustainable business practices.

Available for free from BIFMA’s website at:

The Appalachian Hardwood Forest – Growing an average 2.29 trees for every tree that is harvested. Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc. (AHMI) has verified data from the U.S. Forest Service that timber harvesting from the Appalachian Hardwood Territory as defined by AHMI is able to meet
present needs without compromising those of future generations sustainable.

There are products available on our State Term Contracts that meet the standards of sustainability.

These products cost no more to purchase than products on the contracts that do not meet the standards.

NC State Term Contracts Containing Recycled Products

http://www.doa.state.nc.us/PandC/SustainabilityInformation.htm

*Indiana Office  Casegoods
*Legacy  Casegoods
*Sit-On-It  Seating
*Allsteel  File and Storage Cabinets, Panel Systems, Seating
Steelcase  File and Storage Cabinets, Casegoods, Seating
Correction Enterprises  All printing on Recycled Paper, Envelopes, Letterheads
Xpedx  Paper
Mac Paper  Paper
Office Depot  Office Supplies
Central Poly Corp  Can Liners
Forms and Supply  Aspen 100 – Recycled Paper

*Offering products that meet the requirements (of sustainability as well as being on State Term Contract).
State Mandates Require Sustainability in Purchasing

Executive Order No. 156 – State Government Environmental Sustainability, Reduction of Solid Waste, and Procurement of Environmentally Preferable Products. (Signed July 20, 1999 by Governor James B. Hunt, Jr.)

http://www.p2pays.org/ref%5C03/02221.pdf

“...the State can demonstrate leadership by incorporating environmentally sustainable practices into its operations that preserve natural resources, conserve energy, eliminate waste and emissions, and lessen overall environmental impact; .....”

Senate Bill 668 – “An act to promote the conservation of energy and water use in State, University, and Community College Buildings”


State purchasing practices improve efficiency regarding energy, water, and other utility use and take the cost of the product over the economic life of the product into consideration.

Thanks to Wilson Community College for the excerpts from “Going Green at Wilson Community College.”