

Mecklenburg County Environmental Leadership Team

Environmental Policy Action Plan – January 2007

Mission = Mecklenburg County Government will operate in a manner that conserves and protects our air, water and land resources; become a model of environmental stewardship for local governments, businesses, and industry in our region, and; use and apply the County’s existing and future resources wisely for the benefit of its citizens.

Principle	Description	2008 Goal	Long-Term Goal (2020)
1.	Comply will all applicable local, state and federal environmental regulations in all County facilities.	100 % Compliance	100% Compliance
2.	Practice energy conservation in all County facilities.	Energy Savings Goal – 5% savings Building Conditions Assessments – 100% complete Building Energy Audits – 20% complete	Energy Savings Goal – 50% savings
3.	Practice waste minimization and recycling in all County facilities.	12.5% recycling of total waste stream from all County facilities (including County funded agencies)	20% recycling of total waste stream from all County facilities (including County funded agencies)
4.	Purchase the lowest-emission vehicles practical to meet County needs.	Reduce average NOX emissions (g/mi) by 5% from FY 07 (FY 08 numbers available Feb-08) Conduct a non-road fleet assessment Develop non-road fleet goal (s)	100% low emission on road fleet 100% low emission non-road fleet

Principle	Description	2008 Goal	Long-Term Goal (2020)
5.	Include environmental considerations in purchasing decisions for goods and services.	Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Guide development/implementation	100% compliance with revised policy
		Purchasing/ RFP language requiring environmental stewardship of bidder per this County Policy; 100% compliance in all documents	100% compliance
		Purchase printer/copy paper products that contain 100% recycled material with a minimum 20% post-consumer content; 50% compliance	100% compliance
		Purchase Green office supplies: Paper (other than printer/copier), metal or plastic products that contain a minimum 10% recycled materials and/or meet the Green Seal standard; 10% compliance	70% compliance
		Purchase Park and Playground Equipment made with a minimum 20% recycled content (steel, rubber, aluminum, plastic) ; 100% compliance	Purchase Park and Playground Equipment made with a minimum 70% recycled content (steel, rubber, aluminum, plastic) ; 100% compliance
		Purchase Park and Playground Surfacing made from a minimum 50% recycled content materials (rubber) ; 100% compliance	Purchase Park and Playground Surfacing made from a minimum 90% recycled content materials (rubber) ; 100% compliance
		Purchase Remanufactured Inkjet, laser and toner cartridges ; 50% compliance	90% compliance
		Purchase Green Carpet > 2000 sq. ft; 100% compliance	100% compliance
		Purchase Cleaning products that meet the Green Seal standards; 25% compliance	70% compliance
		Purchase Computers and Monitors that are Energy Star® certified; 60% compliance	100% compliance

Principle	Description	2008 Goal	Long-Term Goal (2020)
		Purchase Paint with low level of VOCs; 40% compliance	100% compliance
6.	Provide employees with opportunities and incentives to practice environmentally sound behaviors.	7% staff participation in Best Workplaces for Commuters 2,000 hours of volunteer time in environmental programs (approval of amendment to existing Board HR Policy and implementation)	20% staff participation in Best Workplaces for Commuters 10,000 hours of volunteer time in environmental programs
7.	Acquire, maintain and preserve land to protect the natural environment	200 acres purchased	2020 goal to be established by new Comprehensive Park & Recreation/Open Space Master Plan to be completed in FY08
8.	Reuse existing buildings and infrastructure and avoid greenfield development.	Freedom Mall Renovations (Phase I) – 90% construction complete District Attorney Expansion – 50% construction complete	Continued Re-use of County buildings where feasible
9.	Require environmentally sensitive design options in all new facilities and retrofits.	Pursue LEED Rating for: (Silver) Freedom Mall Renovations (Phase I) – 90% construction complete (Silver) Medical Examiner Relocation – 75% construction complete (Silver) Revolution Regional Sports & Learning Academy – 50% construction complete (Certified) Jail North Youthful Offender Pod – 40% construction complete	All new or renovated facilities designed to a LEED Gold standard

Principle	Description	2008 Goal	Long-Term Goal (2020)
10.	Actively explore the feasibility of implementing new and innovative products and/or practices that provide environmental benefits, and inform elected officials of new opportunities.	<p>Develop and implement a Low Impact Pest Management Program Pilot for facilities managed by Real Estate Service;</p> <p>Standardize replacement of facility related motors with premium efficiency electrical motors as needed;</p> <p>Adopt, educate and implement Green Cleaning practices in 5% of County facilities</p>	3 new innovative products/practices implemented each year
11.	Direct all County business units to integrate environmental considerations into their activities, and direct LUESA staff to assist business units with identifying and implementing environmentally sound practices.	<p>BOCC endorsement;</p> <p>Letter from County regarding this action plan</p>	100% participation (including all County funded agencies)
12.	Develop a program for continuous review of County activities to insure we seek practical ways to reduce the adverse environmental impacts of our activities, and carefully evaluate new opportunities to achieve sound environmental practices in government operations.	<p>Annual reporting to BOCC regarding status of this Action Plan;</p> <p>Complete Green House Gas Inventory for County operations</p>	Evaluate and implement certification programs with continuous review requirements for application within County programs