

Go Green with the GreenNY Icon



The GreenNY icon can be used to quickly and accurately find environmentally preferable products in the eMarketplace.

A new tool for finding green products

- ✓ **OGS has developed a GreenNY icon** to identify green products quickly and accurately in the New York State eMarketplace. Labelled products meet Executive Order 4 (EO4) environmentally preferable product specifications.
- ✓ **The icon identifies environmentally preferable products such as:**
 - Recycled copy paper
 - Janitorial paper
 - Hand soaps
 - General purpose cleaners
 - Waste/recycling/composting liners
 - Bagged ice melt
 - Energy efficient lighting products
 - And more ...
- ✓ **Benefits of using the GreenNY icon:**
 - Save time. We've done the research for you.
 - Save money. Find products that cost less than conventional products.
 - Green products are less toxic, so harmful chemicals are reduced.
 - Green products use recycled content, so natural resources are conserved and less solid waste is generated.

Look for the GreenNY icon:



Scan the code for GreenNY Knowledge Resources.



How to Green Your Purchasing Efforts

First, decide what products are needed by defining the form, function, and utility. These are the minimum essential requirements that will meet the agency's needs, including the sustainability goals for the product procurement. The agency defines these requirements. They may include quality, quantity, delivery terms, packaging, performance standards, and compatibility, among others. A green product that costs substantially less than what is currently being used and has little or no difference in performance may meet your criteria; however, green cleaners that require more frequent use may not fit your defined criteria.

Second, focus on the procurement process. During this time, vendors compete to meet an institution's specifications to win a contract. Request or require that vendors reduce the environmental impact of their products and services. Focus on the following:

- **Product specifications** can address chemical content, recycled content, user training, packaging, shipping, and end-of-life collection and recycling services.
- **Service specifications** can require notification, worker training, data collection, audit trails, and other accountability measures to ensure high performance.



Green Purchasing Resources

- **Environmentally Preferred Purchasing** on the OGS GreenNY website: ogs.ny.gov/greenny.
- **New York State Green Cleaning Program:** Approved green cleaning product list, best practices, and training: greencleaning.ny.gov.
- **EO4 Product Specifications:** Identifies what green qualities to look for when purchasing. State agencies and authorities are required to purchase commodities, services, and technology that meet the approved green procurement specifications: ogs.ny.gov/greenny/executive-order-4-approved-specifications.
- **NYS Procurement Council:** Best practices and state directives: ogs.ny.gov/procurement/nys-procurement-council.

Contact

This effort is an interagency undertaking that incorporates staff with a wide variety of backgrounds.

Email GreenEO4@ogs.ny.gov for questions related to green purchasing and Executive Order 4.

Scan the code for GreenNY Knowledge Resources.



Green Purchasing in New York State: Statistics from the EO4 Fifth Progress Report (2018)

- There are 53 green procurement specifications available, covering over 90 different types of products.
- OGS Procurement Services has a Green Procurement Team that can assist you in finding environmentally preferable products. For assistance, please contact GreenEO4@ogs.ny.gov.
- NYS entities spent more than \$100 million on green purchasing for products and services.
 - > In an aggregate computer purchase that achieved high environmental performance, the state saved \$75 million on the state contract price.
- Green cleaning continues to be widely practiced. The new Environmentally Preferable Cleaning Products contract and robust preferred source offerings make it easy for agencies to identify and purchase high-performing products at a competitive price.
- Renewable energy use is on the rise. Solar power arrays can be purchased through the OGS contracts for Solar Power Purchase Agreements (Award 23017) and Photovoltaic Systems (Award 23137).
- More than one half of the money spent on copy paper went to purchase 100% post-consumer recycled content, processed chlorine-free paper. That's over \$3.0 million spent on environmentally friendly copy paper, which provided a cost savings when compared with paper containing less recycled content.



GreenNY