

# Macalester College Sustainable Purchasing Guidelines

## Institutional Purchasing Guidelines

Whenever possible, Macalester wishes to minimize its footprint through purchasing. This comes in the form of purchasing materials from recycled content or materials that can be recycled or composted.

To further align with the College's values of multiculturalism, internationalism, and service to society, Macalester encourages responsible and ethical sourcing of all the materials that end up on our campus. This includes attention to the Worker's Rights Consortium.

In comparison to other institutions, Macalester is in a uniquely located in a thriving urban environment. To stimulate growth and a robust economy around Macalester College, the College encourages using our small, local neighbors whenever possible.

## Life Cycle Cost Analysis

As a leader, Macalester took the necessary steps to build Markim Hall – a certified LEED Platinum building on campus. It is with the construction of this facility that LCCA became more prevalent on campus. With the addition of the Energy Manager position to Macalester – particularly as it pertains to Facilities Services purchasing and projects – LCCA has been incorporated more frequently into project discussions. Macalester continues to shape our future building projects using the Minnesota B3 Building Guidelines. Macalester also considers LCCA in purchasing electronics and selecting electronic waste recycling vendors.

## Commodity-Specific Sustainability Criteria

### Chemically Intensive Products and Services

Macalester College uses:

- Green Seal Certified cleaning products, as permitted by law and regulations.
- Sphagnum Moss to reduce the amount of chlorine used by the College's pool in the Leonard Center.

## Construction and Renovation

Macalester carefully considers its actions when renovating, demolishing, or constructing new facilities. The College's first step towards building standards came with the construction of the LEED Platinum building Markim Hall; although Macalester does not have plans to build another structure to undergo the same certification process, Macalester adopted the Minnesota B3 Building Guidelines after the Markim Hall project.

When renovating existing spaces outside of construction projects Macalester uses:

- Low VOC paint
- Low footprint carpet like Ecoworx or carpet that is Cradle to Cradle certified whenever the circumstances permit

## Information Technology

Macalester College Information Technology Services employs several sustainable purchasing and LCCA practices.

- Purchase Energy Star and EPEAT products when offered for a particular installation.
- Purchase 100% Post-Consumer content paper from a local mill for all printing in public ITS and Library computer labs
- Purchase 100% plant-based toners for all ITS printers in public computer labs
- Electronic Waste Recyclers are R2 and NAID certified
- Recycles plastic bags and polystyrene from packaging

## Food Services

Macalester College has been able to make great advancements towards its goal of Zero Waste by 2020 because of our vendor's willingness to exclusively serve food using compostable wares.

## Garments and Linens

## Professional Services

## Transportation and Fuels

Macalester has the unique geographical location that other institutions do not and has direct access to public transit, which is encouraged whenever possible. This is financially encouraged through subsidizing bus passes.

Several years ago, with the installation of the new boiler, Macalester committed to more responsible fuel purchasing by only allowing the purchase of #2 fuel oil and no longer purchases or burns the more carbon-intensive #6.

## Wood and Paper

- Document Services exclusively purchases 100% Post-Consumer content paper for use in their production spaces.
- Information Technology Services exclusively purchases local 100% Post-Consumer Content paper for use in ITS and Library public printing labs.