

For successful implementation of a waste management plan, the tracking program should document waste-to-landfill data for the entire campus on at least an annual basis.

The university should also consider incentives and strategies focused on human behavior to encourage waste prevention. The university, for example, should expand environmental awareness programs led by groups such as Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Responsibility (SPEAR), the Vanderbilt Student Government (VSG), and the Inter Residence Hall Association's (interhall) environmental committees. To make recycling more enjoyable, the university can create a friendly interdepartmental competition that rewards the department with the lowest waste per capita or establish a celebratory recycling day to help educate students, staff, faculty and the local community on sustainable waste management practices.



7.3.3 WATER FOUNTAIN

7.4 Green Cleaning Policy

In coordination with the sustainability guidelines strategies for promoting indoor environmental quality, Vanderbilt has developed the Vanderbilt University green cleaning policy to foster healthy and sustainable cleaning practices across all campus facilities. Campus-wide green cleaning policies, standards and procedures are critical to protect the health and safety of students, faculty and staff.

The green cleaning policy establishes three objectives: (1) reduce human exposure to harmful chemicals, (2) reduce downstream contamination from hazardous chemicals, and (3) reduce the environmental footprint of facility maintenance. The policy outlines university-wide Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for cleaning activities and includes processes for vetting, tracking, and cataloging approved products and equipment. Specifically, the policy covers the following:

- Cleaning operations for entryways, restrooms and dining areas
- Cleaning techniques for floor care, carpets, disinfection, dilution, cleaning cloths, power equipment and indoor plants
- Collection and management of trash, recycling and compost
- Product handling, storage, use tracking and maintenance records
- Management for hazardous spills and mishandling incidents
- Communication and administrative procedures for staff feedback, staff training and occupant feedback
- Approved product list and alternative product selection criteria

As prescribed in the policy, each building is to issue an individual green cleaning plan that outlines implementation measures of the university-wide SOPs for the facility. This plan should address specific conditions of the building including program requirements, critical zones, vulnerable populations, and scheduling of custodial activities.

A copy of the Green Cleaning Policy is attached as an appendix to this Guideline. Given that product lines



7.4.1 GREEN CLEANING LABELS

periodically change, the Green Cleaning Policy should be updated every five years, and the green cleaning plan every six months. Records should be kept of the policy's enforcement and reviewed for future upgrades.

The intent of this policy is to implement the green cleaning policy campus-wide and create an opportunity for new and existing buildings to achieve the LEED Innovation credit.

7.5 Green Purchasing Policy

The university has also developed, in coordination with the sustainability guidelines, the Vanderbilt University green purchasing policy to promote sustainable procurement practices for consumable goods and furnishings. The policy establishes Vanderbilt's goals for minimizing the university's environmental impact through the careful selection of sustainable and healthy products from socially and environmentally responsible vendors. The policy focuses on the procurement of office supplies, food and beverage products, equipment, as well as furnishings.

Specifically, the policy addresses the following product categories:

Ongoing consumables

- Office Supplies
- Lamps
- Food & Beverage
- Lab Chemicals & Supplies

Durable goods

- Office, IT & AV Equipment
- Lab Equipment
- Landscape & Maintenance Equipment
- Residential & Office Appliances
- Furniture & Furnishings
- Vehicles

The green purchasing policy defines the university's requirements for product performance with regards to environmental and human health impacts. The policy asserts a university-wide target to purchase as many products with publicly available, third-party verified environmental assessments and material ingredient disclosure reports as possible. Preference is given to products composed of low-emitting, non-hazardous chemical ingredients that demonstrate reduced carbon footprints through life-cycle assessment. The

policy also extends the university's sustainability goals into product markets. By prioritizing products from manufacturers and vendors that can demonstrate sustainable and socially responsible corporate practices, the university puts pressure on non-sustainable companies to improve their methods to stay competitive.

The green purchasing policy provides an approved product and vendor list and outlines processes for vetting new products, tracking pre-approved product purchases and phasing-out non-approved products in use prior to the establishment of the policy. The policy also provides guidance on the successful implementation of the green purchasing policy with regard to information management, training programs for facility operations, and outreach for building occupants to advance their own healthy and sustainable purchasing habits.



7.5.1 GREEN PRODUCT LABELS