














Eco-Labels

	Biodegradable Products Institute is an organization which certifies that plastic products with “biodegradable” claims will safely break down in a typical commercial composting facility. www.bpiworld.org
	Chlorine-free Products Association is a nonprofit organization that certifies chlorine-free products such as copy paper, envelopes and tissue products. www.chlorinefreeproducts.org
	EcoLogo is Canada’s environmental product certification program. It has issued standards for over 300 product categories (such as flooring, paint, electricity, cleaners, office equipment, and paper products), many of which are sold in the United States. www.ecologo.org/en/
	Electronic Products Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) is an independent program that certifies “green” electronic equipment such as computers, monitors and laptops. www.epeat.net
	ENERGY STAR is a joint program of the US Department of Energy and US Environmental Protection Agency that allows its label to be used on energy-efficient products (such as light fixtures, CFLs, LEDs, appliances and office equipment). www.energystar.gov
	E-Stewards is a program that certifies recyclers of electronic equipment that adhere to the highest standard of environmental responsibility and worker protection. The e-Stewards Standard for Responsible Recycling and Reuse of Electronic Equipment® can be found at http://e-stewards.org/certificationoverview/
	Forest Stewardship Council certifies lumber and other building products made with sustainably harvested wood or that reduce wood consumption. www.fscus.org
	Green-e is a labeling program established by the nonprofit organization, Center for Resource Solutions, which verifies that electricity has been generated using renewable sources such as solar and wind. www.green-e.org
	Greenguard is a nonprofit organization which certifies products that improve indoor air quality. Find products (such as flooring, paints, furniture, and cleaning products) with low VOCs and other emissions. Some are certified for use near children. www.greenguard.org
	Green Seal is a nonprofit organization that sets standards for products (such as janitorial cleaners, floor strippers, and paints) and certifies products that meet those standards. www.greenseal.org
	Fair Trade USA maintains a label issued to companies that import products such as coffee, tea, chocolate and rice, which have been manufactured and sold under fair and safe working conditions. They also house a list of certified products on their website. www.transfairusa.org
	US Department of Agriculture allows use of its organic label for products meeting federal standards that address pesticide and fertilizer use and other approved methods used to grow, harvest and process food and other agricultural products. www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/
	WaterSense is an EPA-sponsored program that labels water-efficient products such as shower heads, faucets, toilets and irrigation equipment. www.epa.gov/watersense/index.htm

Additional Resources

	<p>Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Network (EPPNet) is a free electronic list-serv that links public and private officials charged with purchasing environmentally preferable products and services. It provides subscribers with quick access to EPP policies, specifications, vendors, and pricing and performance information. www.nerc.org/eppnet/index.html</p>
	<p>Health Care Without Harm is an international coalition of environmental organizations and institutions working to implement ecologically sound and healthy alternatives to health care practices that pollute the environment and contribute to disease. The green purchasing section of their website includes sample purchasing policies for hospitals, a safer chemical action kit, product category fact sheets and auditing/assessment tools for establishing benchmarks. www.noharm.org</p>
	<p>National Association of State Purchasing Officials (NASPO) has developed a Green Purchasing Resource Guide designed to help its members in “navigating the sea of information surrounding the adoption of a responsible purchasing program.” www.naspo.org/content.cfm/id/Green_Guide</p>
	<p>Responsible Purchasing Network (RPN) is a member-based network of procurement stakeholders that maintains an online clearinghouse of information on EPP policies, programs, purchasing guides, reports, upcoming events and other related resources. www.responsiblepurchasing.org</p>
	<p>SF Approved List is a compilation of products and services that meet the health and environmental standards of the City & County of San Francisco. It is a project of the San Francisco Department of the Environment, which is charged with implementing the City’s Precautionary Purchasing Ordinance. www.sfapproved.org</p>
	<p>Scientific Certification Systems verifies green claims such as “biodegradable” or “contains recycled content”. SCS also oversees compliance with the California Gold Sustainable Carpet Standard and other environmental certifications. www.scsertified.com</p>
	<p>The Sweatfree Purchasing Consortium is a collaboration of U.S. states, local governments, and other public agencies, working to help each member entity ensure its purchases are manufactured in lawful conditions, to monitor industry compliance, and to do so more effectively and less expensively than any single one could accomplish on its own. www.buysweatfree.org/</p>
	<p>UL Environment is a third-party organization that currently certifies carpeting, resilient flooring, information technology equipment and office furniture. ULE also validates environmental claims relating to recycled content, energy and water efficiency, degradability, VOC content and more. www.ulenvironment.com</p>
	<p>US Department of Agriculture’s BioPreferred Program is a voluntary initiative that labels products containing biobased (plant-based) material. It offers a catalog of products that contain a minimum amount biobased content. www.biopreferred.gov/aboutus.aspx</p>
	<p>US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) has developed Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines that recommend minimum recycled-content levels for dozens of products. For more information, www.epa.gov/cpg/products.htm</p> <p>US EPA has also developed a suite of EPP tools, including a database of bid specifications and policies; lists of products that meet federal EPP standards; and EPP updates, guidance documents, fact sheets, and case studies. www.epa.gov/epp</p>