EPA Recommended Specifications Standards and Ecolabels

EPA's Interim Recommendations are based on specifications, environmental performance standards and ecolabels selected and utilized by federal agencies to assist in their procurement of environmentally preferable products and services. Currently, the interim recommendations include specifications, standards and ecolabels from the Department of Energy's (DOE's) FY16 Priority Products List and the General Services Administration's (GSA's) Key Sustainable Products. DOE and GSA Public Buildings Service have identified specifications, standards and ecolabels for products that meet federal statutory requirements, have verified   sustainability attributes, are readily available in the market, and meet cost and performance needs.

DOE's FY15 Priority Products List and GSA's Key Sustainability Products can be viewed on GSA's Green Procurement Compilation.   Further information about the evaluation processes used by these Agencies to select these specifications, standards and   ecolabels is available in the DOE's background and evaluation process document and the GSA Public Buildings Service's background and evaluation process document.

In some cases DOE and GSA Public Buildings Service have identified different specifications, standards and ecolabels for a specific product category. After consultation with GSA Public Buildings Service and DOE, EPA chose to utilize specifications, standards and ecolabels identified by GSA in those instances because they are required for GSA Public Buildings Service procurement while DOE's Priority Products List is used on a voluntary basis for DOE procurement. The relevant statutory   sustainable procurement requirements and federal ecolabels that apply to each product and service category are included in   the chart alongside the EPA Interim Recommendations in order to clarify Executive Order direction for federal purchasers. EPA has also revised some recommendations to address government-wide considerations. For most product categories,   EPA's Interim Recommendations do not include specifications. In instances where there was known potential for limited   product availability related to a particular standard or ecolabel, specifications were included.

EPA's Interim Recommendations do not include a comprehensive list of all product and service categories with federal statutory sustainable procurement requirements or relevant federal ecolabels. To see the full list of all product and service categories and their associated federal green purchasing requirements, please go to GSA's Green Procurement Compilation.

Updated, May 13, 2016. More information can be found at: http://www.epa.gov/greenerproducts/

EPA Recommended Specifications, Standards and Ecolabels

Cafeteria

Construction

Custodial

Electronics

Grounds Landscaping

Office

Operations Fleet Shipping Shop

Cafeteria

Product/ Service	Specifications/ Standards/ Ecolabels To Use in Federal Procurement to Meet Federal Environmentally Sustainable Purchasing Requirements		
	Applicable Statutory Requirements	Applicable EPA EcoLabels	Other EPA Recommended Specifications, Standards and Ecolabels
Take-Out Service: Containers, Cutlery, Dishware	•BioPreferred	none applicable	•Biodegradable Products Institute certified compostable provided composting available[1]

Construction

Product/ Service	Specifications/ Standards/ Ecolabels To Use in Federal Procurement to Meet Federal Environmentally Sustainable Purchasing Requirements		
	Applicable Statutory Requirements	Applicable EPA EcoLabels	Other EPA Recommended Specifications, Standards and Ecolabels
Adhesives	•BioPreferred	•SNAP	Purchases meet one or more of the following: •South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 1168 Adhesive and Sealant Applications[1] • UL 2762 Sustainability Standard for Adhesives[1] • UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program For Chemical Emissions For Building Materials, Finishes And Furnishings[1]
Carpet*	•BioPreferred •Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines For Recycled Content Products (Polyester Carpet)	none applicable	•NSF 140 Sustainability Assessment for Carpet[2]
Ceiling Tiles-Acoustical	•BioPreferred	non-applicable	•California Section 01350 standard for low-VOC materials[2]

Product	Applicable Statutory Requirements	Applicable EPA EcoLabels	Other EPA Recommended Specifications, Standards and Ecolabels
Fiberboard, Gypsum Panels, Wallboard	•BioPreferred (composite panels) •Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Recycled Content Products	none applicable	•UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program For Chemical Emissions For Building Materials, Finishes And Furnishings[2]
Flooring*	•BioPreferred (non-carpet floor coverings) •Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Recycled Content Products	none applicable	Purchases meet one or more of the following: •UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program For Chemical Emissions For Building Materials, Finishes And Furnishings[1] •NSF 332 International Sustainability Assessment for Resilient Floor Coverings[1] • FloorScore[1]
Insulation	•BioPreferred •Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Recycled Content Products	none applicable	•UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program For Chemical Emissions For Building Materials, Finishes And Furnishings[1]
Interior Latex Paint*	•BioPreferred •Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Recycled Content Products	none applicable	•South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 1113 standard[2]
Lumber/ Wood**	none applicable	none applicable	• Forest Stewardship Council Certified[1]

Custodial

Product/ Service	Specifications/ Standards/ Ecolabels To Use in Federal Procurement to Meet Federal Environmentally Sustainable Purchasing Requirements		
	Applicable Statutory Requirements	Applicable EPA EcoLabels	Other EPA Recommended Specifications, Standards and Ecolabels
Cleaners: Carpet, Glass, Multipurpose	•BioPreferred	•Safer Choice	Purchasers meet one or more of the following: • Green Seal GS-37 Standard for Cleaning Products for Industrial and Institutional Use[2] • UL 2759 Standard for Hard Surface Cleaners[2]

Floor Care	•BioPreferred	•Safer Choice	Purchasers meet one or more of the following: • Green Seal GS-40 Standard for Floor-Care Products for Industrial and Institutional Use[1] • UL 2777 Standard for Sustainability for Hard Floor Care
Hand Soap	•BioPreferred	•Safer Choice	Purchasers meet one or more of the following: • Green Seal GS-41 Standard for Hand Cleaners for Industrial and Institutional Use[2] • UL 2784 Standard for Hand Cleaners[2]
Toilet Tissue	•Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Recycled Content Products	none applicable	• Green Seal GS-01 Standard for Sanitary Paper Products[2]
Towels- Paper	•Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Recycled Content Products	none applicable	• Green Seal GS-01 Standard for Sanitary Paper Products[2]
Wastebasket Liners (24" x 33" or smaller)	•BioPreferred •Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Recycled Content Products	none applicable	Purchasers meet one or more of the following: • ≥ 20% post-consumer recycled content[2] •UL 126 Standard for Sustainability for Plastic Film Products2

Electronics

Product/ Service	Specifications/ Standards/ Ecolabels To Use in Federal Procurement to Meet Federal Environmentally Sustainable Purchasing Requirements		
	Applicable Statutory Requirements	**Applicable EPA EcoLabels**	**Other EPA Recommended Specifications, Standards and Ecolabels**
Computer Desktops, Notebooks (including two in one notebooks), Displays, Integrated Desktop Computers, Workstation Desktops, Thin Clients, and Slates/Tablets	•ENERGY STAR • FEMP	none applicable	• EPEAT Registered (highest rating available)[1]
Imaging equipment: (Printers, Copiers, Multi-Function Devices, Scanners, Fax Machines, Digital Duplicators, Mailing Machines)	•ENERGY STAR	none applicable	• EPEAT Registered (highest rating available)[1]

Televisions	•ENERGY STAR	none applicable	• EPEAT Registered (highest rating available)[1]

Grounds/ Landscaping

Product/ Service	Specifications/ Standards/ Ecolabels To Use in Federal Procurement to Meet Federal Environmentally Sustainable Purchasing Requirements		
	Applicable Statutory Requirements	Applicable EPA EcoLabels	Other EPA Recommended Specifications, Standards and Ecolabels
De-Icer	•BioPreferred	•Safer Choice	•Pacific Northwest Snowfighters Qualified Products[1]

Office

Product/ Service	Specifications/ Standards/ Ecolabels To Use in Federal Procurement to Meet Federal Environmentally Sustainable Purchasing Requirements		
	Applicable Statutory Requirements	Applicable EPA EcoLabels	Other EPA Recommended Specifications, Standards and Ecolabels
Copy Paper	•Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Recycled Content Products	none applicable	Purchasers meet one ore more of the following: •UL 2771 Standard for Sustainable Paper Products •Green Seal GS-07 Standard for Printing and Writing Paper)
Furniture*	•Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Recycled Content Products	none applicable	Purchasers meet one ore more of the following: • Business and Institutional Manufacturers Association (BIFMA) Level[1] •UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program For Chemical Emissions For Building Materials, Finishes And Furnishings[1]
Toner Cartridges	•Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Recycled Content Products	none applicable	Purchasers meet one ore more of the following: • STMC – Manufacturer meets Standardized Test Methods of the International Imaging Technology Council[1] • UL 2785 Standard for Sustainability for Printing Cartridges[1]

Operations/ Fleet/ Shipping/ Shop

Product/ Service	Specifications/ Standards/ Ecolabels To Use in Federal Procurement to Meet Federal Environmentally Sustainable Purchasing Requirements		
	Applicable Statutory Requirements	Applicable EPA EcoLabels	Other EPA Recommended Specifications, Standards and Ecolabels
Parts Wash Solution for Machine Shop Operations	•BioPreferred	•Safer Choice	• UL 2792 Standard for Sustainability for Cleaning and Degreasing Compounds: Biologically-based[1]

* For this product category, EPA is piloting an assessment approach for standards and ecolabels using its Draft Guidelines. Once the pilot has concluded, EPA plans to update the interim recommendations for this product category accordingly.

** EPA is exploring whether updates to the interim recommendations for the Lumber/Wood purchasing category may be appropriate.

[1] From DOE's Office of Sustainability Support. For further information on this voluntary program, see:

DOE's full Priority Products List

DOE's background and evaluation process document.

[2] From GSA's Public Buildings Service. For further information, see: and

GSA's Key Sustainable Products

GSA's background and evaluation process document.