



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 June 27, 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 available¹

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 Applications¹ • UL 2762 Sustainability Standard for Adhesives^{1^} <i>Federal Employees: Learn how to access this standard here.</i> • UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program For Chemical Emissions For Building Materials, Finishes And Furnishings^{1^} <i>Federal Employees: Learn how to access this standard here.</i>
Carpet*	• BioPreferred • Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines For Recycled Content Products (Polyester Carpet)	none applicable	• NSF 140 Sustainability Assessment for Carpet^{2^} <i>Federal Employees: Email EPP@epa.gov for access to this standard.</i>

Ceiling Tiles-Acoustical	• BioPreferred	none applicable	• California Section 01350 standard for low-VOC materials ²
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^} <i>Federal Employees: Learn how to access this standard here.</i>
Flooring*	• BioPreferred (non-carpet floor coverings) • Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Recycled Content Products	none applicable	Purchasers meet one or more of the following: • UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program For Chemical Emissions For Building Materials, Finishes And Furnishings ^{1 ^} <i>Federal Employees: Learn how to access this standard here.</i> • NSF 332 International Sustainability Assessment for Resilient Floor Coverings ^{1 ^} <i>Federal Employees: Email EPP@epa.gov for access to this standard.</i> • FloorScore
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 ^} <i>Federal Employees: Learn how to access this standard here.</i>
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 Use² • UL 2759 Standard for Hard Surface Cleaners^{2^} <i>Federal Employees: Learn how to access this standard here.</i>
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 Use¹ • UL 2777 Standard for Sustainability for Hard Floor Care^{1^} <i>Federal Employees: Learn how to access this standard here.</i>
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 Use² • UL 2784 Standard for Hand Cleaners^{2^} <i>Federal Employees: Learn how to access this standard here.</i>
Toilet Tissue	• Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Recycled Content Products	none applicable	• Green Seal GS-01 Standard for Sanitary Paper Products²
Towels- Paper	• Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Recycled Content Products	none applicable	• Green Seal GS-01 Standard for Sanitary Paper Products²
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 Products^{2^} <i>Federal Employees: Learn how to access this standard here.</i>

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 Products¹

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 or more of the following: •UL 2771 Standard for Sustainable Paper Products^{1^} <i>Federal Employees: Learn how to access this standard here.</i> •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 Furniture Manufacturers Association (BIFMA) Level^{1 ^} <i>Federal Employees: Email EPP@epa.gov for access to this standard</i> • UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program For Chemical Emissions For Building Materials, Finishes And Furnishings^{1 ^} <i>Federal Employees: Learn how to access this standard here.</i>
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 Council¹ • UL 2785 Standard for Sustainability for Printing Cartridges^{1 ^} <i>Federal Employees: Learn how to access this standard here.</i>

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 ^} <i>Federal Employees: Learn how to access this standard here.</i>

* 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.

^ This standard requires additional instructions for access and download. Learn how to access these standards [here](#).

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:

[GSA's Key Sustainable Products](#)

[GSA's background and evaluation process document.](#)

Standards

If you are a US federal government employee who would like access to one of the standards referenced in the EPP Guidelines, please follow the instructions below. The developers of these standards will make them available free of charge to federal government employees for reference and review purposes.

Access to NSF Standards:

Instructions: Please email EPP@epa.gov from your .gov email address and we will forward your request to the standards body. Please include your full name and where you work. The standard will then be emailed to you in PDF form.

Links to NSF Standards:

- [NSF 140 Sustainability Assessment for Carpet](#)
- [NSF 332 International Sustainability Assessment for Resilient Floor Coverings](#)
- [Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturers Association \(BIFMA\) Level](#)

Access to UL Standards:

Instructions: If you do not already have a registered account [visit UL to create one](#). Anyone with a .gov email address will gain access to the standard free of charge. Once the account is created follow the instructions below:

- Click the desired standard above which will take you to the UL website.
- Click the red "Purchase Options" button. It will take you to a new page, select "Secure PDF" with no fee, then click the red "Add to Cart" button.
- On the next page click the red "Checkout" button.
 - If not already logged in, you will be asked for your log in information here. Log in and proceed to the next page and click the red "Checkout" button.
- On the next page you click the red "Go to Download PDF" button and follow the directions to download. You then should have full access to that standard.

Links to UL Standards:

- [UL 2762 Sustainability Standard for Adhesives](#)
- [UL 2818 GREENGUARD Certification Program for Chemical Emissions For Building Materials, Finishes and Furnishings](#)
- [UL 2759 Standard for Hard Surface Cleaners](#)
- [UL 2777 Standard for Sustainability for Hard Floor Care](#)
- [UL 2784 Standard for Hand Cleaners](#)
- [UL 126 Standard for Sustainability for Plastic Film Products](#)
- [UL 2771 Standard for Sustainable Paper Products](#)
- [UL 2785 Standard for Sustainability for Printer Cartridges](#)
- [UL 2792 Standard for Sustainability for Cleaning and Degreasing Compounds: Biologically-based](#)