

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MADISON SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION OF AN ENVIRONMENTALLY-CONSCIOUS GROUNDS AND MAINTENANCE POLICY

WHEREAS, it is valuable to establish procedures, methods, and practices that benefit our natural lands and environment, the health of our workers and citizens, and minimize negative environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, practices that increase product and method efficiency and effectiveness reduce waste; and

WHEREAS, it is beneficial to utilize products and methods that minimize environmental impacts, toxics, pollution, and hazards to worker and community safety to the fullest extent that is practical; and

WHEREAS, the use of methods and products that reduce waste or increase recyclability, are sustainable, conserve energy and water, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, use unbleached or chlorine-free manufacturing processes, reduce use of chemicals and are lead-free and mercury-free, when and where practicable, provides long-term benefits to the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Madison, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, that the Borough of Madison support the adoption of a policy that encourages and increases the use of environmentally-preferable methods, products, and services in municipal grounds and building decisions, to promote practices that are beneficial to our lands, public and worker health and natural resource conservation.

The policy objectives are to:

- Conserve natural resources,
- Minimize environmental impacts such as pollution and use of water and energy,
- Eliminate or reduce toxins that create hazards to workers and the community,
- Support strong recycling markets,
- Reduce materials that are routinely landfilled,
- Increase the use and availability of environmentally-preferable products that protect the environment,
- Identify environmentally-preferable techniques, methods, and distribution systems,
- Create a model for sustainable buildings and grounds maintenance that encourages others in the community to adopt similar goals.

The Public Works Department and members of the Sustainable Madison Advisory Committee composed of representatives from various Borough departments and residents agree to research, evaluate, and implement the sustainable methods to grounds and buildings maintenance objectives. The Committee will focus its research, evaluation and implementation on the following areas: water- and energy-efficient products and processes, landscape and grounds management, renewable products, waste and pollution reduction, recycled content products, composting and the reduction of chemical and toxic substances and processes. The implementation shall be coordinated with other appropriate Borough personnel and evaluated by the team annually.

The health and safety of workers and citizens is of utmost importance and takes precedence over all other policies.

To the fullest extent possible, the Borough has made significant investments in developing a successful recycling system and recognizes that recycled content products are essential to the continuing viability of that recycling system and for the foundation of an environmentally-sound production system. Therefore, wherever practicable, recycled content shall be included in products that also meet other specifications, such as chlorine-free or bio-based.

Nothing contained in this policy shall be construed as requiring a department or contractor to procure products that do not perform adequately for their intended use, exclude adequate competition, or are not available at a reasonable price in a reasonable period of time. Nor shall this policy be construed as requiring the Borough, department, purchaser or contractor to take any action that shall conflict with local, state, county or federal requirements.

Definitions:

“Bio-Based Products” means commercial or industrial products (other than food or feed) that utilize agricultural crops or residues but does not include products made from forestry materials.

“Chlorine Free” means products processed without chlorine or chlorine derivatives.

“Contractor” means any person, group of persons, business, consultant, designing architect, association, partnership, corporation, supplier, vendor or other entity that has a contract with the Borough of Madison or serves in a subcontracting capacity with the Borough of Madison or with an entity having a contract with the Borough of Madison for the provision of any goods or services.

“Energy Efficient Product” means a product that is in the upper twenty-five (25%) percent of energy efficiency for all similar products, or that is at least ten (10%) percent more efficient than the minimum level that meets Federal standards and guidelines.

“Practical” & “Practicable” mean whenever possible and compatible with local, state and federal law, without reducing safety, quality, or effectiveness and where the product or service is available at a reasonable cost in a reasonable period of time.

“Recycled Content” means the percentage of recovered material, including pre-consumer and postconsumer materials, in a product.

“Water-Efficient Products” are those that are in the upper twenty-five (25%) percent of water conservation for all similar products, or at least ten (10%) percent more water-conserving than the minimum level that meets the Federal standards.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED
May 29, 2019

ROBERT H. CONLEY, Mayor

Attest:

ELIZABETH OSBORNE, Borough Clerk