



Key Sustainable Purchasing Survey Questions - Vendors

Understanding Sustainable Business Practices

Without thinking about it much, jot down a few words that describe what the term "sustainability" means to you in your business?

Which if any of the following Multnomah County sustainability policies are you familiar with? Please indicate all that apply.

I have not heard of it. I've heard of it, but am not familiar with it. I'm familiar with it.

- Policy on Paper and Paint Purchasing
- LEED Gold and High Performance Green Building Policy
- Green Cleaning Policy
- Recycling Goals and Waste Prevention Plans
- Toxics Reduction Policy
- Sustainable Purchasing Policy

Which if any of the following common sustainability practices do you currently use in your business? Please indicate all that apply.

We follow this practice. We don't follow this practice. We are developing a similar practice.

- Duplex printing (office printers default to printing on both sides of paper)
- Energy saving practices (turning down thermostats, turning off lights and electronics)
- Recycling and waste prevention
- Green cleaning policy
- Toxics reduction policy
- Sustainable purchasing policy
- Other

What barriers do you think companies face in introducing sustainable practices into their business?

- Lack of knowledge/training on the topic.
- Lack of time and/or funding.
- Concern that the cost of sustainable practices outweighs the benefits.
- Lack of trained people to implement the practice(s).
- Concern that sustainable practices are not compatible with core business goals and values.
- Other

When purchasing goods for your own business, which of the following influence your decision and by how much?

Little to no influence. Some influence. Fairly important/influential. Very important/influential.

- Resource conservation (water, energy)
- Material content (virgin content, recycled materials)
- Durability and re-use potential
- Third party certifications (e.g. Energy Star, EcoLogo, etc)
- Toxics reduction
- Product source (locally made, American made)
- Social equity (fair trade, fair labor, minority-owned, women-owned, or emerging small business (MWESB))
- Purchase price
- Total cost of ownership over the lifetime of the good or product

To what extent are you familiar with the following sustainability terms?

I have not heard of it. I have heard of it, but am not familiar with it. I am familiar with it.

- Carbon emissions
- Diesel emissions
- Greenhouse Gases (GHG)
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Lifecycle Costing (LCC)
- Organic
- Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)
- Total Cost of Ownership (TCO)
- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)

7. To what extent are you familiar with the following third party certifications?

I have not heard of it. I have heard of it, but am not familiar with it. I am familiar with it. I look for and purchase products with this certification.

- American Society for Testing and Material
- EcoLogo
- Energy Star
- EPEAT
- Forest Stewardship Council
- Greenguard
- Green Seal
- LEED
- Scientific Certification Systems

Doing Business with Multnomah County

Please tell us what you need in order to make implementing sustainable practices in your business easier. (Examples might include sustainability training, sustainable purchasing training, an overview of the 2009 Climate Action Plan, case studies describing successful business practices or other ideas you may have.)

What is the best way for you to receive new information about updates from Multnomah County Central Procurement and Contract Administration (CPCA)? Please check all that apply.

- Website updates
- Email updates
- Electronic newsletters
- Hard copy materials through US mail
- Live training at meetings and conferences
- Webinars and teleconferences
- Self-paced, online training programs
- Other

Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements.

From strongly disagree to strongly agree

- When a business follows sustainable business practices, it reduces costs.
- When a business adopts a sustainable purchasing policy it reduces costs.
- By adopting a sustainable purchasing policy, Multnomah County is demonstrating its ongoing commitment to improving the environment and the quality of life of its citizens.
- Multnomah County is committed to supporting a vibrant local economy.
- Multnomah County is committed to ensuring that all businesses, regardless of size or minority affiliation, can fairly compete for County business.