

# Implementing Sustainability Assigned Counsel (2010-2015)

## Leaner & Greener

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Pierce County  
Office of Sustainability

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*"A sustainable business has been defined as one that operates in an environmentally responsible way. Its business processes are such that no negative environmental impact is felt as a result of their existence. With this in mind, consider your use of energy sources, commuting options and hitting the print button on the copy machine. Your individual decision making in areas affecting sustainability impact present and future generations."*



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# 2015 Pierce County Sustainability Goals

## Leaner & Greener

### Updated Pierce County Government Sustainability Goals



**Air Quality:** All areas of Pierce County are in compliance with federal air quality standards.



**Employee Sustainability Training:** When surveyed, 90% of Pierce County employees take sustainability into consideration in their jobs



**Energy Efficiency:** Reduce by 15%\* electricity and natural gas use in County facilities over January 2010 levels. All new County facilities are built to a LEED Silver or better standard.



**Green Purchasing and Recycling:** At least 50% of office products purchased have recycled content. Reduce purchase and consumption of copier/printer paper by 15%. Increase recycling by 35% \*\*. Reduce the amount of landfill waste by 30%.



**Transportation:** 50% of Pierce County's general use fleet to be hybrid/electric/alternative fuel vehicles. 25% of Pierce County employee commute trips will be public transit, carpool/vanpool, bicycle, walk, drive electric vehicles, telecommute or compressed work week.



**Water Quality and Quantity:** Reduce water use in our 43 owned buildings by 10%. On average Pierce County streams grade to a B- or better (Currently C).\*\*\*

Expanded Goal\*, Decreased Goal\*\*, New Goal\*\*\*

# Assigned Counsel – Leaner & Greener

## Employee Sustainability Training

- Encourage staff to frequent the County's Sustainability website.
  - Promote the 3 R's: "Reusing, Reducing, Recycling".
  - Encourage sustainable practices for both work and home.
  - Encourage staff to educate family & friends on sustainability.
- Emphasize increased consistent dissemination of new sustainability practice information to all staff.
  - Provide sustainable education as part of new employee policy and procedure manuals.

## Energy Efficiency

- Making double-sided copies and duplex printing. Will strive for 50% paper reduction.
- Turning off lights and electronics at the end of the day.
- Scanning and e-mailing documents rather than printing and mailing. Will strive for 100% electronic inter-departmental transfers.
- Using spell-check and print preview functions before printing documents for proof-reading.
- Preference of fluorescent and LED bulbs over incandescent.
- Keeping rarely used electronic appliances unplugged.
- Ink saving font formats.
- Font size reduction to condense pages.



## Transportation

- Encouraging carpooling and or public transportation for commuting to and from work.
- Encouraging walking to the courthouse rather than driving.
- Approximately 18% of staff currently participates in alternate commute options. Will strive for 30%.

## Green Purchasing and Recycling

- Placing paper, plastic, cardboard & aluminum in recycle bins located throughout the office.
- Reusing office supplies such as binders, paper clips, binder clips, and file folders.
- Preference to products with recycled content when ordering supplies.
- Purchasing and recycling high capacity toner cartridges.
- Purchasing and distributing online publications instead of paper copies.
- Purchasing locally.

## Water Quality

- Encourage use of reusable water containers.
- Reinforce use of water-coolers rather than purchasing bottled water.

## Air Quality

- Encourage limited wood burning activities at home.
- Recommend reducing vehicle mileage by combining multiple errands/trips into one.

## Greenhouse Gas Reductions

- Promote an increase in staff Commute Trip Reduction participation.
- Promote video conferencing to reduce participant commuting.

# 2010 Assigned Counsel Sustainability Snapshot

## Department Size

- Employees: **105 employees**

## Employee Sustainability Education and Training

- % of employees have filled out the sustainability survey: **70%**
- % of employees who take sustainability into consideration in their jobs: **86% yes**
- General Sustainability Training: **No**
- Education on what creates greenhouse gases and strategies for reducing: **No**
- Wood stove educational training: **No**

## Energy Efficiency

- Building EnergyStar Score: **CCB 56**
- % reduction in energy use in office building: **CCB -4.7%**
- Building Energy Cost per Sq Ft: **\$1.01**

## Green Purchasing and Recycling

- % of office products that have recycled content: **29.4%; up from 27.2% in 2009**
- % Paper use: **26.6% increase in paper use, spent \$2,820.47 more than in 2009**

## Transportation

- Vehicles Operated by Department: **4**
- Hybrid/Electric vehicles: **1**
- Mileage Reimbursements: **17,176.9 miles, 5,589 miles more than in 2009**
- Gasoline use: **773 unleaded gallons, reduced gas use by 557 gallons compared to 2009**
- Fleet MPG: **25.53 mpg**