

Implementing Sustainability Communications (2010-2015)

Leaner & Greener

April 2011



Pierce County
Office of Sustainability

“Even though we’re just a three-person department, we know that steps we take contribute to the greater good. We can use our communications resources to keep everyone informed about our collective progress toward meeting these goals. Plus, it just feels good to do the right thing.” - Hunter George, Director



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2015 Pierce County Sustainability Goals

Leaner and 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***

Communications – Leaner and Greener

Energy Efficiency

- Utilize e-mail and the web in lieu of projects we have traditionally printed: the Executive's Annual Report, the employee newsletter, the Executive's Budget 101 presentation, the graphics manual, etc.
- Utilize power-saving settings on computers and monitors.
- Turn off printers at night.

Employee Sustainability Training

- Department coordinator will monitor countywide opportunities and best practices; report quarterly.
- Utilize department resources to support the Sustainability Manager's programs and efforts.

Transportation

- Support employee alternative commuting choices through flexible work schedules.
- Encourage staff to carpool and use energy-efficient County fleet vehicles for business transportation, in lieu of personal vehicles.
- Reduce travel by 20% through conference calls.
- The county webmaster (located in our department) will work with departments to implement online transactions with customers.
- Our department will promote existing and future opportunities for online transactions, which should help reduce customer trips to county facilities.



Air Quality

- Support employee alternative commuting choices through flexible work schedules.
- Use department resources to promote the PSCAA's wood smoke reduction program to employees and the general public.

Greenhouse Gas Reductions

- Encourage staff to request hybrid vehicles from Fleet Rental

Green Purchasing and Recycling

- Recycle toner.
- Recycle use of required printed materials.
- Continue participation in an environmentally safe computer disposal program.
- Purchase energy efficient PCs.
- Limit the number of print subscriptions to a small, core group – the rest can be viewed online

2010 Communications Sustainability Snapshot

Department Size

- Employees: **3 employees**

Employee Sustainability Education and Training

- % of employees have filled out the sustainability survey: **100%**
- % of employees who take sustainability into consideration in their jobs: **100% yes**
- General Sustainability Training: **Yes**
- Education on what creates greenhouse gases and strategies for reducing: **Yes**
- Wood stove educational training: **Yes**

Energy Efficiency

- Building EnergyStar Score: **County City Building 57**
- % reduction in energy use in office building: **CCB -4.7%**
- Building Energy Cost per Sq Ft: **CCB \$1.01**

Green Purchasing and Recycling

- % of office products that have recycled content: **12.9%; down from 40.9% in 2009**
- % Paper use: **36% decrease in paper use, spent \$127.50 less than in 2009**

Transportation

- Vehicles Operated by Department: **0**
- Hybrid/Electric vehicles: **0**
- Mileage Reimbursements: **3,678 miles, 742 miles more than in 2009**
- Gasoline use: **N/A**
- Fleet MPG: **N/A**