

# Implementing Sustainability Council (2010-2015)

## Leaner & Greener

April 2011



Pierce County  
Office of Sustainability



“Sustainability has never been more important than it is today. From the County’s fiscal health to the health of the environment, the Council values and embraces sustainability in its policies and practices.”

Roger Bush, Pierce County Council



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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\*\*\*

## Transportation

- Encourage Commute Trip Reduction Program (CTR) usage by Council employees with a goal of achieving a 25% reduction in Council employee single occupant vehicle commute trips by 2015
- Reduce off-site Council meetings and functions
- Encourage use of carpooling to off-site meetings and functions

## Employee Sustainability Training

- Established an Office Sustainability Committee
- Encourage employee participation in sustainability activities (events, surveys, etc.)
- Conduct an annual sustainability review

## Air Quality

- Continually evaluate business practices to reduce carbon footprint
- Provide annual staff training on the topic of wood smoke impact and reduction

## Energy Efficiency

- Reduce number of documents printed for public meetings and utilize more of an “on-demand” printing approach
- Continue to emphasize email and other electronic means for providing meeting information and notifications
- Re-evaluate printer and copier needs within the office
- Verify energy efficiency settings on office equipment and energy use protocols and policies (lighting, computer shutdown, etc.)
- Collaborate with other tenants of the County-City Building to reduce building energy usage by 15%



## Green Purchasing and Recycling

- Continue efforts to reduce supply usage with the goal of reducing paper usage by 15%
- Emphasize recycling within the office including paper, printer and toner cartridges
- Only purchase high recycled content supplies
- Reduce supply offerings and encourage complete utilization of supplies (paper, pens, pencils, etc.) before replenishing
- Emphasize purchase of Energy Star compliant devices when replacing obsolete or defective equipment
- Comply with the County’s green purchasing policies

## Water Quality

- Take appropriate legislative action in responses to water quality mandates at the state and federal level

## Greenhouse Gas Reductions

- Take appropriate legislative action in response to greenhouse gas reduction requirements at the state and federal level.

# 2010 Council Sustainability Snapshot

## Department Size

- Employees: **27.9 employees**

## Employee Sustainability Education and Training

- % of employees have filled out the sustainability survey: **59%**
- % 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: **51.9%; up from 30.7% in 2009, 45% reduction in spending on office products.**
- % Paper use: **32% decrease in paper use, spent \$1,429.57 less than in 2009**

## Transportation

- Vehicles Operated by Department: **0**
- Hybrid/Electric vehicles: **0**
- Mileage Reimbursements: **1,551.40 miles, 534 less miles than in 2009**
- Gasoline use: **N/A**
- Fleet MPG: **N/A**