

PROFESSIONAL STAFF SENATE UB Recycled Paper Purchasing Policy

Background

The University at Buffalo is a national leader in campus environmental sustainability and specifically in the use of 100% post consumer content processed chlorine free recycled paper. One third of copier and printer paper used on campus is now this type.

Policy

It is the policy of the University at Buffalo that all general purpose 8.5" X 11" inch white copier and printer paper purchased by all units within the University will be 100% post-consumer content processed chlorine free recycled paper.

Benefits

The use of 100% post-consumer content processed chlorine free recycled paper at the University at Buffalo will significantly reduce UB's environmental impact on forests and energy, air and water resources, and reinforce UB's leadership in campus environmental sustainability. UB's reputation as a progressive green campus will benefit by being in the company of Princeton University, Humboldt State University, and Middlebury College, the only schools in the United States which currently have this policy.

This policy is consistent with UB President John Simpson's signing of the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment. Eliminating UB's use of virgin material copier and printer paper and increasing its use of 100% post-consumer content recycled paper will produce lifecycle fossil fuel energy savings, thus reducing greenhouse gas emissions and UB's contribution to climate change.

Moreover, by setting an example, UB can effectively encourage other campuses and organizations to take this step – thus demonstrating social responsibility and producing further significant environmental benefits. This policy, once publicized on campus, will also advance UB's academic mission by teaching environmental sustainability – a requirement of the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment.

Source

Copier and printer paper meeting this specification is easily available on the market at competitive prices. University Procurement Services has worked closely with Staples office supply to make 100% post-consumer content recycled paper available to University offices and departments inexpensively. This paper is also processed chlorine free, of very high quality, and runs well in all copiers as demonstrated by its extensive use on campus by many departments including CIT in all public computer labs and cybaries.