Sustainable procurement directory

The sustainable procurement directory provides Practice Greenhealth members with guidance on more than 120 products and services health care organizations can target for sustainable procurement. The directory identifies key environmental considerations for each product or service, where to obtain more information, and the rationale for purchasing sustainably. This resource supports anyone who purchases or makes decisions about purchasing in health care. Be sure to download the latest version. Please let us know of any questions or comments by emailing procurement@practicegreenhealth.org.

Non-medical products

Version date: Dec. 12, 2018

As part of the sustainable procurement directory, this section provides guidance on non-medical products health care organizations can target for sustainable procurement.

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Building materials

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Boilers	n/a	● Electrical switch is mercury-free, and ● Specify that mercury-containing devices should be properly labeled ● [Additional environmental criteria](#)	[Mercury elimination tools and resources](#)	Mercury is a highly potent neurotoxin. Once released into the environment, certain bacteria can change mercury into methylmercury, a highly toxic form of mercury that bioaccumulates in fish and shellfish. Eating fish and shellfish is the main source of people's exposure to methylmercury in the United States. Exposure can cause a range of different health impacts, especially to children and fetuses.	n/a
Cubicle curtains	Certified to meet VOC emissions by one of the following: ● GREENGUARD Gold (VOCs only), or ● ANSI/BIFMA X7.1 and 7.2 (VOCs only), and Optional (not related to the goal): ● Cradle to Cradle (Silver, Gold, Platinum) ● Declare label, and/or ● Health Product Declaration (HPD)	Meet the safer chemicals healthy interiors goal for furniture and furnishings: ● free of formaldehyde, per- and poly-fluorinated compounds, polyvinyl chloride, antimicrobials, and all flame retardants	[Safer chemicals healthy interior list of products meeting goal](#)	Eliminate hazardous chemicals in patient healing environments to support good patient health.	[Safer chemicals healthy interiors goal](#): ensure that 30% of the annual volume of furnishings and furniture purchases (based on cost) eliminate the use of formaldehyde, perfluorinated compounds, polyvinyl chloride (PVC), antimicrobials, and all flame retardants

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Faucets and accessories	EPA WaterSense labeled, and	• Sensor-activated and • Use flow restrictors	Less water toolkit: water efficient products EPA overview, water savings, specifications EPA WaterSense product search	WaterSense labeled bathroom faucets and accessories can reduce a sink's water flow by 30% or more	Reduce water use intensity
Floor cleaning machines	n/a	• Chemical-free (water only) or • automatic scrubbing machines that reduce or replace the use of floor cleaning chemicals • Additional environmental criteria	n/a	Using safer alternatives to cleaning chemicals reduces the potential for worker exposure and health impacts to sensitive patient populations	n/a
Floor cleaning mops	n/a	Microfiber	Using microfiber mops in hospitals, U.S. EPA	The density of microfiber material enables it to hold six times its weight in water, making it more absorbent. The positively charged microfibers attract dust. They are light and ergonomic. Switch mop head often to prevent dirty mop heads from contaminating patient rooms.	n/a

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Furniture and fabric (sofas, chairs, work surfaces, built-in and modular casework, storage walls, shelving, panels, beds, window coverings, and cubicle curtains)	Certified to meet VOC emissions by one of the following: ● GREENGUARD Gold (VOCs only), or ● ANSI/BIFMA X7.1 and 7.2 (VOCs only), and Optional (not related to the goal): ● Cradle to Cradle (Silver, Gold, Platinum) ● Declare label, and/or ● Health Product Declaration (HPD)	● Reupholster, ● refurbish, or ● specify products meet the safer chemicals healthy interiors goal for furniture and furnishings 　○ free of formaldehyde, per- and poly-fluorinated compounds, polyvinyl chloride, antimicrobials, and all flame retardants	List of furniture and materials that meet the healthy interiors goal Healthy interiors guidance GREENGUARD Gold ANSI/BIFMA X7.1, 7.2 Cradle to Cradle Declare label Health Product Declaration label	Products that can be used more than once reduce waste (and associated costs) and conserve natural resources. Eliminate hazardous chemicals in patient healing environments to support good patient health	Safer chemicals healthy interiors goal: ensure 30% of the annual volume of furnishings and furniture purchases (based on cost) eliminate the use of formaldehyde, perfluorinated compounds, polyvinyl chloride (PVC), antimicrobials, and all flame retardants
HVAC equipment	n/a	● Purchase water saving devices for reducing potable water use and reusing non-potable water, and ● HVAC setback in the operating room (consider automation systems to reduce air exchanges per hour) ● Additional environmental criteria	Article: HVAC setback Webinar: HVAC setback in the operating room	HVAC equipment can achieve greater efficiencies to save operational costs. Reducing HVAC demands in operating rooms (OR) when they are unoccupied can save an average of more than $3,200 per OR per year	n/a

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Lighting, fluorescent	n/a	● Purchase mercury-free (or lowest amount of mercury), energy efficient lamps ● Properly handle lamps at end of use to avoid releasing mercury (do not allow lamp crushers), or ● establish a lamp recycling service	Suggested environmental considerations for lighting equipment Making Medicine Mercury-Free	Fluorescent lamps contain mercury which is released into the environment when lamps are broken or crushed. Mercury is a reproductive toxin and a potent neurotoxin - it affects the brain and the central nervous system. Mercury released into the environment can cause early death, weight loss and reproductive problems in wildlife. Over forty states have fish consumption advisories because of widespread mercury contamination.	Safer chemicals mercury elimination goal: Achieve mercury-free status or develop and implement mercury elimination plan
Lighting, general	n/a	Bulb: ● No/low mercury (LEDs preferred; mercury-free), and ● Energy efficient (options include LEDs). ● No lamp crushers for mercury-containing lamps, and ● Recycle lamps, and Bulbs/Fixtures: ● Low-wattage fixtures (ballasts, drivers) and bulbs (preferably LEDs). ● As part of preventative maintenance, purchase and practice the installation of group re-lamping/retrofits.	DOE lighting efficiency Suggested environmental considerations for lighting	The US Energy Information Administration suggests that lighting can account for 43% of electrical needs in health care spaces. Thus, higher efficiency products can significantly reduce load with savings. Mercury-containing products can lead to contamination when thrown in the trash, where they might be crushed or incinerated. Mercury can evaporate into the air where it can then be deposited into water and soil. Fish accumulate mercury in their bodies. This, in turn, can be a source of mercury exposure to people who consume the fish. Children and fetuses are the most vulnerable to the effects of mercury. Exposure can affect learning and behavior later in life.	Safer chemicals mercury elimination goal: Achieve mercury-free status or develop and implement mercury elimination plan

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Mattresses	Certified to meet VOC emissions by one of the following: ● GREENGUARD Gold (VOCs only), or ● ANSI/BIFMA X7.1 and 7.2 (VOCs only), and Optional (not related to the goal): ● Cradle to Cradle (Silver, Gold, Platinum) ● Declare label, and/or ● Health Product Declaration (HPD)	● Reupholster, or ● refurbish, or ● meet the healthy interiors goal for furniture and furnishings: ○ free of formaldehyde, per- and poly-fluorinated compounds, polyvinyl chloride, antimicrobials, and all flame retardants), and/or ● Specify suppliers provide a take-back program to responsibly recycle and remove at end of use.	List of furniture and materials that meet the healthy interiors goal Healthy interiors guidance GREENGUARD Gold ANSI/BIFMA X7.1, 7.2 Cradle to Cradle Declare label Health Product Declaration label	Products that can be used more than once reduce waste (and associated costs) and conserve natural resources. Eliminate hazardous chemicals in patient healing environments to support good patient health Take back programs may be available through the supplier or manufacturer-sponsored program to take responsibility for products at the end of use and not increase an organization's waste costs	Safer chemicals healthy interiors goal: ensure 30% of the annual volume of furnishings and furniture purchases (based on cost) eliminate the use of formaldehyde, perfluorinated compounds, polyvinyl chloride (PVC), antimicrobials, and all flame retardants
Occupancy and motion sensors	n/a	● Utilize sensors for energy and water reduction (faucets), and ● Purchase and install sensors in every operating room and ancillary areas (control ambient lighting based on occupancy)	GOR case study: energy efficiency in the OR - HVAC setback program Webinar: Greening the OR energy efficiency strategies: HVAC setback Occupancy Sensor Selection Guide	Per ASHE Guidelines, maintain compliance and reduce air exchange rates and moderate temperature during unoccupied periods in the operating rooms. Considering that health care spaces operate 24/7, not all zones are actually in utilization. Occupancy sensors help take care of zones that no longer serve patients or have downtime saving considerable dollars for their minor price.	n/a

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Paints, sealants, adhesives	Certified to meet at least one of the following standards: ● Green Seal GS-11, or ● Master Paint Institute (MPI) GPS 2-12, or ● Master Paint Institute (MPI) Extreme Green ● Green Wise Gold	● VOCs do not exceed 50 grams/liter (defined as low VOC) for interior paint (without colorants added at point of sale) ● No metals: antimony, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, lead, mercury	Green Seal GS-11 products Master's Paint Institute product list Green Wise Gold product list	Exposure to volatile organic compounds (VOCs) can contribute to respiratory distress in patients and staff. Paints can off-gas for weeks/months so it's important for hospitals to specify low VOC products as well as eliminate other chemicals of concern that may affect human health.	n/a
Showerheads	EPA WaterSense labeled	(refer to standard/ecolabel)	Less water toolkit: water efficient products EPA WaterSense labeled products	The largest uses of water in hospitals are cooling equipment, plumbing fixtures, landscaping, and medical process rinses. PA WaterSense for showerheads sets a lower limit than current baseline - no more than 2.0 gallons water per minute (gpm) versus 2.5 gpm at 80 psi per shower stall	Meet the less water goal to reduce water use intensity
Toilets	EPA WaterSense labeled	(refer to standard/ecolabel)	Less water toolkit: water efficient products EPA WaterSense labeled	The largest uses of water in hospitals are cooling equipment, plumbing fixtures, landscaping, and medical process rinses. WaterSense labeled toilets use 20% less water than the current federal standard - 1.28 gallons per flush (gpf) versus 1.6 gpf.	Meet the less water goal to reduce water use intensity
Toilets, flushometer-valve	EPA WaterSense labeled	● Flush-valve, or ● Dual flush, or ● Low-flow	Less water toolkit: water efficient products EPA flushometer-valve toilets overview, water savings, specifications EPA WaterSense product search	WaterSense labeled toilets use 20% less water than the current federal standard of 1.6 gallons per flush.	Meet the less water goal to reduce water use intensity

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Urinals	EPA WaterSense labeled, or	Waterless	Less water toolkit: water efficient products EPA WaterSense labeled	WaterSense labeled urinals use 20% less than the current federal standard for urinals of 1.0 gallons per flush.	Meet the less water goal to reduce water use intensity
Vacuums	Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI) Seal of Approval - Gold (Gold includes energy efficiency)	(refer to standard/ecolabel)	Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI) list of certified vacuum cleaners	When vacuums meet tests for soil removal and dust containment, it improves the indoor air quality for patients and health care staff.	n/a
Water submeters	n/a	Use water submeters	Less water toolkit: water efficient products	Use water submeters to measure water flow	Meet the less water goal to reduce water use intensity

Distributors

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Distributors	EPA SmartWay partner	Achieve the transportation goal for distributors	EPA SmartWay Partner	Achieve both air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions reductions	Achieve the transportation goal: increase the percentage of EPA SmartWay partners amongst top 10 distributors to 80% or greater

Cleaners

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Disinfectants (surface)	n/a	Use ultraviolet germicidal irradiation (UVGI) technology as an alternative	Emerging trends in health care	Some cleaning products contain chemicals known to cause health problems for patients, the environmental and health care professionals and safer alternatives are available.	n/a
Janitorial cleaning products	● Green Seal (GS-37 or GS-40) or ● UL ECOLOGO (UL 2759, 2795)	Specify products meet the safer chemicals green cleaning goal: ● Select janitorial cleaners that are Green Seal or UL ECOLOGO certified Optional: ● Consider a chemical dilution control system to reduce packaging	Guidance to achieve the safer chemicals challenge for green cleaning Green Seal certified products UL ECOLOGO certified products	By switching to safe and effective alternatives, hospitals can create a healthier environment for patients, staff members, and communities. Reducing the use of hazardous chemicals can also lower disposal costs and limits liability.	Safer chemicals green cleaning goal: purchase 90% Green Seal or UL ECOLOGO certified cleaning products in the following categories- carpet, window, all-purpose, bathroom, and general floor care

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Laundry detergents	• Green Seal GS-51 (laundry care products for industrial and institutional use), or • UL ECOLOGO 2776 (liquid laundry detergent and fabric softeners)	(refer to standard/ecolabel)	Green Seal GS-51 certified products UL ECOLOGO 2776 certified products	By switching to safe and effective alternatives, hospitals can create a healthier environment for patients, staff members, and communities.	n/a

Computers, telecom, IT equipment

Product / service	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Computers, monitors, laptops	EPEAT registered	Specify the criteria in the smarter purchasing greener electronics goal: purchase EPEAT registered devices	Smarter purchasing challenge goal EPEAT registered products	EPEAT registered devices are Energy Star rated, contain safer chemicals, and multiple other environmental attributes; cost savings mainly through energy efficiency; reputable third-party standard and registration program.	Meet smarter purchasing greener electronics goal to purchase 80% computers, monitors, laptops that are registered with EPEAT
Data centers (on-site)	n/a	• Efficient cooling systems; • Heat capture	The basics of data cooling centers	Data centers exhaust heat that can otherwise be captured and reused. If left untreated with cooling efficiency options, it can cause extra wear and tear in the equipment itself and the displaced heat can attribute to unwanted higher temperatures.	n/a

Product / service	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
IT products and software	EPA ENERGY STAR certified	• Energy efficient hardware, and • Power saving software mode engaged, and • Specify suppliers provide a take-back program to responsibly recycle at end of use (reduce waste cost burden). The latter can apply to product packaging.	EPA ENERGY STAR Electronics takeback program	EPA ENERGY STAR certified equipment saves energy through energy- efficient design and power management options. Electronics contain hundreds of toxic chemicals and if not properly handled, are released into the air, water, and soil.	n/a
Mobile phones	EPEAT registered	Specify the criteria in the smarter purchasing greener electronics goal: purchase EPEAT registered devices	Smarter purchasing challenge goal EPEAT Product Registry	EPEAT registered devices are Energy Star rated, contain safer chemicals and multiple other environmental attributes; cost savings mainly through energy efficiency; reputable third-party standard and registration program.	Meet smarter purchasing greener electronics goal to purchase 80% mobile phones that are registered with EPEAT
Televisions	EPEAT registered	Specify the criteria in the smarter purchasing greener electronics goal: purchase EPEAT registered devices	Smarter purchasing challenge goal EPEAT Product Registry	EPEAT registered devices are Energy Star rated, contain safer chemicals and multiple other environmental attributes; cost savings mainly through energy efficiency; reputable third-party standard and registration program.	Meet smarter purchasing greener electronics goal to purchase 80% televisions that are registered with EPEAT

Fleet

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Electric vehicle charging stations	n/a	● Provide electric vehicle charging stations	Practice Greenhealth transportation toolkit	To reduce an organization's greenhouse gas emissions and support employees and company fleet using electric vehicles, provide electric vehicle charging stations.	Transportation fleet vehicle management goals: increase the percentage of alternative-fuel fleet vehicles by 3-5% per year from baseline (with a cumulative goal of 15% increase in 5 years), and reduce the total greenhouse gas emissions from fleet vehicle combustion by 3-5% per year from baseline

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Vehicles	n/a	Meet the transportation fleet vehicle management goals: ● increase the percentage of alternative-fueled fleet vehicles by 3-5% per year from baseline (with a cumulative goal of 15% increase in 5 years), and reduce the total greenhouse gas emissions from fleet vehicle combustion by 3-5% per year from baseline (with a cumulative goal of 15% reduction in 5 years) Optional criteria: ● Use nitrogen-filled tires ● Use re-refined motor oil ● Specify lead-free wheel weights	Practice Greenhealth transportation toolkit Alternative fueled, low-emitting, fuel-efficient vehicles includes: ● biodiesel B20-B100 ● electricity ● E8 ethanol ● hydrogen ● methanol ● natural gas ● propane ● P-series	Innovative transportation strategies can improve individual and public health by inviting employees out of their cars and into more active and healthy modes of travel, greening fleet vehicles, and integrating sustainable purchasing practices.	Transportation fleet vehicle management goals: increase the percentage of alternative-fuel fleet vehicles by 3-5% per year from baseline (with a cumulative goal of 15% increase in 5 years), and reduce the total greenhouse gas emissions from fleet vehicle combustion by 3-5% per year from baseline

Food

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Bakery/baked goods	Sustainable: certified to one of the following third-party certifications: ● certified organic ● Rainforest Alliance Certified ● Fair Trade, or	Buy local (farms, ranches, and production/processing facilities located within a 250-mile radius of the facility) Note: For processed foods with multiple ingredients like breads, the product must have the majority of ingredients (> 50% by weight) produced within the 250-mile radius).	Environmental considerations for processed food Sustainable food definitions	Processed foods that contain corn, soy, canola may have been produced from GMO seeds. GMO containing foods or ingredients are not adequately assessed for their credible adverse effects on human or animal health, or on the environment in which they are produced. Products may contain artificial food dyes or flavorings. Some of these additives raise health concerns.	Healthier food challenge: Less meat, better meat: Part A: reduce by 10% per year or achieve the ultimate goal of an average 1.5 oz. per meal served. Part B: Increase by 5% per year or achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of meat and poultry purchases are raised without the routine use of antibiotics Local food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of local food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of the total. Sustainable food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of sustainable food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of total

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Beverages	Sustainable: certified to one of the following third-party certifications: ● certified organic, ● Rainforest Alliance Certified, ● Fair Trade, ● Bird Friendly, or	Buy local (farms, ranches, and production/processing facilities located within a 250-mile radius of the facility Note: For processed foods with multiple ingredients like breads, the product must have the majority of ingredients (> 50% by weight) produced within the 250-mile radius.	Environmental considerations for beverages Healthy beverages: get started guide	Ingredients may have been produced with synthetic pesticides and fertilizers. Coffee and tea which typically come from international markets may have been produced with the use of child labor, unsafe working conditions, and unfair wages. Additionally, consuming excessive or high amounts of food and beverages with added sugars is associated with a number of human health concerns such as higher rates of obesity, cardiovascular disease, and Type II Diabetes.	Healthier food challenge: Local food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of local food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of the total. Sustainable food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of sustainable food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of total

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Dairy	Sustainable: certified to one of the following third-party certifications: ● American Grass-fed Certified, ● Animal Welfare Approved, ● certified Grass-fed by A Greener World, ● certified organic, ● certified Grass-fed by PCO, ● Certified Humane (Raised and Handled), ● Food Alliance Certified and ● USDA label claim rBGH-free/rBST-free/Our farmers pledge not to use rBGH (dairy products)	Buy local (farms, ranches, and production/processing facilities located within a 250-mile radius of the facility) Note: For processed foods with multiple ingredients like breads, the product must have the majority of ingredients (> 50% by weight) produced within the 250-mile radius).	Environmental considerations for dairy products Healthy beverages: get started guide	Cows may have consumed feed produced with synthetic pesticides and fertilizers, or genetically modified organisms, and had antibiotics, or added hormones administered to them. rBGH or rBST has the potential to cause illness in the cows increasing the need for antibiotics potentially contributing to antibiotic resistance in humans. Additionally, some concerns have been raised about the potential for use of rBGH to increase rates of cancer in humans. Its use is not permitted in the European Union, Canada, and some other countries.	Healthier food challenge: Local food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of local food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of the total. Sustainable food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of sustainable food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of total

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Dry Goods / grocery	Sustainable: certified to one of the following third-party certifications: ● certified organic, ● Rainforest Alliance Certified, ● Fair Trade	Buy local (farms, ranches, and production/processing facilities located within a 250-mile radius of the facility) Note: For processed foods with multiple ingredients like breads, the product must have the majority of ingredients (> 50% by weight) produced within the 250-mile radius.	Environmental considerations for grains and legumes	Crops may have been produced utilizing high levels of toxic pesticides and fertilizers. Farming practices may be wasteful or harmful to water, soil and habitat health. Grains grown outside of the United States may have been produced utilizing unfair labor/working conditions. Products may contain artificial food dyes, flavorings or be genetically modified. Each of these raises health concerns.	Healthier food challenge: Less meat, better meat: Part A: reduce by 10% per year or achieve the ultimate goal of an average 1.5 oz. per meal served. Part B: Increase by 5% per year or achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of meat and poultry purchases are raised without the routine use of antibiotics Local food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of local food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of the total Sustainable food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of sustainable food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of total

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Eggs	Sustainable: certified to one of the following third-party certifications: ● Animal Welfare Approved, ● Certified Humane (Raised and Handled), ● certified organic, ● Food Alliance Certified and Global Animal Partnership (Steps 1 - 5+), or	Buy local (farms, ranches, and production/processing facilities located within a 250-mile radius of the facility) Note: For processed foods with multiple ingredients like breads, the product must have the majority of ingredients (> 50% by weight) produced within the 250-mile radius.	Understanding labels - sustainable eggs Environmental considerations for eggs	Hens may have consumed feed produced with antibiotics, arsenic, synthetic pesticides and fertilizers, or genetically modified organisms. Eggs may have been produced with nontherapeutic antibiotics (e.g., antibiotics used to prevent disease) and raised in a setting that does not address humane living and slaughter standards.	Healthier food challenge: Less meat, better meat: Part A: reduce by 10% per year or achieve the ultimate goal of an average 1.5 oz. per meal served. Part B: Increase by 5% per year or achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of meat and poultry purchases are raised without the routine use of antibiotics Local food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of local food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of the total Sustainable food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of sustainable food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of total

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Meat	Sustainable: certified to one of the following third-party certifications: ● American Grass-fed Certified ● Animal Welfare Approved ● Certified Grass-fed by A Greener World ● certified organic ● certified Grass-fed by PCO ● certified Humane (Raised and Handled), Food Alliance Certified and Global Animal Partnership Steps 1 - 5+	Buy local (farms, ranches, and production/processing facilities located within a 250-mile radius of the facility) Note: For processed foods with multiple ingredients like breads, the product must have the majority of ingredients (> 50% by weight) produced within the 250-mile radius.	Understanding labels - sustainable meat and poultry Specify the criteria in the healthier food challenge goal: purchase less meat, better meat; purchase local, sustainable food	Animals may have consumed feed produced with synthetic pesticides and fertilizers, or genetically modified organisms, and had antibiotics, or added hormones administered to them. Injudicious use of antibiotics in animal agriculture can result in antibiotic resistance in humans. Hormones are commonly administered to bovine and sheep (lambs) to increase and speed up the growth of the animal. Added growth hormones in animal agriculture potentially increase the risk of cancer in humans and raises rates of infections in animals.	Healthier food challenge: Less meat, better meat: Part A: reduce by 10% per year or achieve the ultimate goal of an average 1.5 oz. per meal served. Part B: Increase by 5% per year or achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of meat and poultry purchases are raised without the routine use of antibiotics Local food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of local food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of the total Sustainable food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of sustainable food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of total

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Poultry	Sustainable: certified to one of the following third-party certifications: ● Animal Welfare Approved ● Certified Humane (Raised and Handled) ● certified organic ● certified Responsible Antibiotic Use (CRAU) chicken standard ● Food Alliance Certified and Global Animal Partnership (Steps 1 - 5+) ● meets one of the following label claims allowed by USDA and must be process verified: "Raised without antibiotics", "No antibiotics administered", "Raised with therapeutic antibiotics only". "No Antibiotics Added"	Buy local (farms, ranches, and production/processing facilities located within a 250-mile radius of the facility) Note: For processed foods with multiple ingredients like breads, the product must have the majority of ingredients (> 50% by weight) produced within the 250-mile radius.	Understanding labels - sustainable meat and poultry Specify the criteria in the healthier food challenge goal: purchase less meat, better meat; purchase local, sustainable food	Animals may have consumed feed produced with synthetic pesticides, synthetic or sewage sludge fertilizers, irradiation or genetically modified organisms (especially in corn, soy, grain, and canola), and the animals may be been given antibiotics or arsenic additives. Farming practices may be wasteful or harmful to water, soil and habitat health Injudicious use of antibiotics in animal agriculture can result in antibiotic resistance in humans.	Healthier food challenge: Less meat, better meat: Part A: reduce by 10% per year or achieve the ultimate goal of an average 1.5 oz. per meal served. Part B: Increase by 5% per year or achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of meat and poultry purchases are raised without the routine use of antibiotics Local food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of local food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of the total Sustainable food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of sustainable food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of total

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Produce	Sustainable: certified to one of the following third-party certifications: ● Certified organic ● Food Alliance Certified ● Rainforest Alliance Certified ● Fair Trade Certified ● Protected Harvest	Buy local (farms, ranches, and production/processing facilities located within a 250-mile radius of the facility) Note: For processed foods with multiple ingredients like breads, the product must have the majority of ingredients (> 50% by weight) produced within the 250-mile radius.	Environmental considerations for produce Food Alliance Certified Rainforest Alliance Certified Fair Trade Certified Protected Harvest	Produce may have been produced utilizing high levels of toxic pesticides and fertilizers. Farming practices may be wasteful or harmful to water, soil and habitat health. Some considerations for produce grown outside the United States: may have been produced utilizing unfair labor/working conditions, and high levels of toxic pesticides and fertilizers may have been used. Also, farmers in developing nations may not receive a fair price for their goods.	Healthier food challenge: Local food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of local food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of the total Sustainable food and beverage: Goal 1, increase the percentage of sustainable food purchases by 5% annually, or Goal 2, achieve the ultimate goal of 20% of total
Seafood	Sustainable: certified to one of the following third-party certifications: ● Marine Stewardship Council (wild and domestic species only) ● Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch* Best Choice List (wild and domestic species only) ● Gulf of Maine Responsibly Harvested (finfish, shellfish)	● Buy a diversity of seasonally available species. ● Buy "underutilized" species. ● Buy local/domestic, wild-caught finfish and shrimp from small and mid-sized vessels. ● Connect with community seafood organizations.	Choosing seafood for healthcare Marine Stewardship Council (wild and domestic species only) Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch Best Choice List (wild and domestic species only) Gulf of Maine Responsibly Harvested (finfish, shellfish)	Our reliance on imported (often untraceable) seafood unwittingly exposes us to chemicals and antibiotic-resistant bacteria and supports labor and environmental practices inconsistent with the values of the health care sector.	n/a

Food Service

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Appliances (i.e., freezers)	ENERGY STAR certified products	Energy efficient	ENERGY STAR products	Energy Star certified products use less energy than their counterparts.	n/a
Dishwasher & ware washing	ENERGY STAR certified products	Energy efficient	ENERGY STAR products	ENERGY STAR commercial dishwashers are, on average, 40% more energy and water efficient than standard models; They save businesses on average $3,000/year in reduced energy and water costs.	n/a
Food production (ovens, steamers, kettles, etc.)	ENERGY STAR certified products	Energy and water efficient	Purchasing water efficient products in health care Alternatives: Boilerless steamers Boilerless combination ovens	ENERGY STAR steamers are, on average, 90% more water efficient than standard models, using 3 gallons of water per hour versus 40 gallons of water per hour in standard models. The typical boiler-based combi oven uses up to 40 gallons of water per hour. Boilerless combination ovens use much less water and can cut water usage to as low as 20 gallons of water per hour or less. ENERGY STAR combination ovens are, on average, 20% more energy efficient than standard models.	n/a

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Food service ware	Biodegradable Product Institute (BPI) (certified compostable service ware)	First Choice: Reusable food service ware (patient meals and cafeteria) Second Choice: Compostable food service ware (single-use ware) certified by BPI when composting exists, and does not contain PFAS chemicals Third choice: Recyclable (to-go containers) that are styrene/polystyrene-free	Environmental considerations for food service ware Biodegradable Product Institute	Disposable food ware ends up in landfills, incinerators, or the world's oceans where they can cause significant harm to humans and the environment and other negative environmental impacts.	n/a
Pre-rinse spray valves	EPA WaterSense labeled	(refer to standard/ecolabel)	Purchasing water efficient products in health care Less water toolkit: get started guide EPA WaterSense labeled	Pre-rinse spray valves can account for 30% of the water used in a commercial kitchen; EPA WaterSense pre-rinse spray valves use 20% less than the federal standard of 1.6 gallons per minute.	Meet the less water goal to reduce water use intensity

Landscape

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Landscape irrigation controls (drip irrigation, clock timers)	EPA WaterSense labeled irrigation controllers	(refer to standard/ecolabel)	Less water toolkit: get started guide Purchasing water efficient products in health care EPA WaterSense labeled	Native and drought-tolerant landscape design can reduce water demand by 50% or more before considering irrigation.	Meet the less water goal to reduce water use intensity

Office supplies

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Copy paper	Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified (FSC Recycled); and	Minimum 30% post-consumer recycled content (meets or exceeds EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines)	Guidance on recycled copy paper Forest Stewardship Council Conservatree Paper Listings Canopy Ecopaper Database	Buying recycled content paper "closes the loop" and creates the demand for recycling, boosts the value of discarded paper and thus makes recycling more economically viable. Recycled content paper also reduces greenhouse gas emissions compared to purchasing virgin copy paper. Refer to the paper calculator.	n/a
Imaging equipment (copiers, printers, fax, multifunctional devices (MFD), scanners, digital duplicators, mailing machines)	EPAT registered	Meet the smarter purchasing greener electronics goal: ● Purchase EPEAT registered devices	Smarter purchasing challenge goal EPEAT registered products	EPEAT registered devices are Energy Star rated, contain safer chemicals and multiple other environmental attributes; cost savings mainly through energy efficiency; reputable third-party standard.	Meet smarter purchasing greener electronics goal to purchase 80% imaging equipment (copiers, printers, fax, multifunctional devices (MFD), scanners, digital duplicators, mailing machines) that are registered with EPEAT

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Office supplies (general)	Meet one or more of the following depending on the product: ● Meets or exceeds EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines ● Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) certified ● Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified ● Art and Creative Materials Institute (ACMI) AP certified nontoxic ● EPA ENERGY STAR ● Green Seal or UL ECOLOGO certified ● GREENGUARD ● ● Cradle to Cradle	Meet the transportation supply chain goals to require distributors/ suppliers to reduce transportation impacts: ● Request top 10 vendors become EPA SmartWay Shipper Partner Additional criteria: ● Reusable, or ● Refurbished/remanufactured (e.g., furniture), or ● Free of antimicrobials, or ● Free of PVC, or ● Contains post-consumer recycled content (meets or exceeds EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (e.g. paper, nonpaper products), or ● Free of PFAS chemicals (e.g. foodware, food containers), or ● High yield or remanufactured (e.g. toner cartridges) Rechargeable (e.g. batteries), or ● Solar powered (e.g. calculators), or ● Refillable (e.g. refillable pencils)	Environmental considerations for office supplies EPA Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines, paper EPA SmartWay Partner EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines Biodegradable Products Institute Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Art and Creative Materials Institute (ACMI) AP certified EPA ENERGY STAR Green Seal or UL ECOLOGO certified GREENGUARD Cradle to Cradle	Reduce/reuse/refurbish for waste reduction; buying recycled content products supports recycling markets; free of chemicals of concern to reduce exposure and health impacts.	When one of the top 10 selected distributors, meet the transportation supply chain goal to request top 10 vendors become an EPA SmartWay Shipper Partner

Personal Care

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Hand antiseptic	UL ECOLOGO certified (UL 2783, Hand Antiseptics), or	Specify products that meet the safer hand hygiene goal: ● Select hand hygiene products free of the antimicrobials triclosan and triclocarban UL 2783 certified products meet the goal	Safer hand hygiene goal Green Seal GS-41 certified products UL ECOLOGO 2783, Sustainability for Hand Antiseptic Products	Triclosan and triclocarban, antimicrobial ingredients commonly used in hand hygiene products in the health care setting, have been shown to pose risks to both employees and the environment.	Safer hand hygiene goal: Eliminate triclosan and triclocarban containing hand hygiene products throughout the facility. Level One: Establish a baseline and achieve 80% of hand hygiene product spend that do not contain triclosan or triclocarban
Hand lotion	n/a	Specify products that meet the safer hand hygiene goal: ● Select hand hygiene products free of the antimicrobials triclosan and triclocarban	Safer hand hygiene goal Green Seal GS-41 certified products	Triclosan and triclocarban, antimicrobial ingredients commonly used in hand hygiene products in the health care setting, have been shown to pose risks to both employees and the environment.	Safer hand hygiene goall: Eliminate triclosan and triclocarban containing hand hygiene products throughout the facility. Level One: Establish a baseline and achieve 80% of hand hygiene product spend that do not contain triclosan or triclocarban
Hand Rub	UL ECOLOGO certified (UL 2783, Hand Antiseptics), or	Specify products meet safer hand hygiene goal: ● Select hand hygiene products free of the antimicrobials triclosan and triclocarban UL 2783 certified products meet the goal	Safer hand hygiene goal UL ECOLOGO 2783, Sustainability for Hand Antiseptic Products,	Triclosan and triclocarban, antimicrobial ingredients commonly used in hand hygiene products in the health care setting, have been shown to pose risks to both employees and the environment.	Safer hand hygiene goall: Eliminate triclosan and triclocarban containing hand hygiene products throughout the facility. Level One: Establish a baseline and achieve 80% of hand hygiene product spend that do not contain triclosan or triclocarban

Product	Environmental ecolabel, standard, regulation	Key environmental criteria	More information	Rationale for purchasing	Practice Greenhealth goals/metrics
Hand sanitizer	● UL ECOLOGO certified (UL 2783, Hand Antiseptics or UL 2784 Hand Cleaners)	Specify products that meet the safer hand hygiene goal: ● Select hand hygiene products free of the antimicrobials triclosan and triclocarban UL 2783 and UL 2784 certified products meet the goal	Safer hand hygiene goal UL ECOLOGO 2783, Sustainability for Hand Antiseptic Products, UL ECOLOGO 2784, Sustainability for Hand Cleaners, certified products	Triclosan and triclocarban, antimicrobial ingredients commonly used in hand hygiene products in the health care setting, have been shown to pose risks to both employees and the environment.	Safer hand hygiene goall: Eliminate triclosan and triclocarban containing hand hygiene products throughout the facility. Level One: Establish a baseline and achieve 80% of hand hygiene product spend that do not contain triclosan or triclocarban
Hand soaps (liquid, bar, foam)	● Green Seal GS-41 certified (Hand Cleaners for Industrial and Institutional Use), or ● UL ECOLOGO 2784 certified hand cleaners	Meet the safer hand hygiene goal: ● Select hand hygiene products free of the antimicrobials triclosan and triclocarban Green Seal GS-41 or UL ECOLOGO 2784 certified products meet the goal	Safer hand hygiene goal Green Seal GS-41 certified products UL ECOLOGO 2784, Sustainability for Hand Cleaners, certified products	Triclosan and triclocarban, antimicrobial ingredients commonly used in hand hygiene products in the health care setting, have been shown to pose risks to both employees and the environment.	Safer hand hygiene goall: Eliminate triclosan and triclocarban containing hand hygiene products throughout the facility. Level One: Establish a baseline and achieve 80% of hand hygiene product spend that do not contain triclosan or triclocarban