

## WHY GO GREEN?



### Mission

Libraries are here to improve the condition of mankind. Humans have an impact on the environment. Libraries

can help educate citizens and at the same time become sustainable.

### Image

A green building shows that the library is investing in the future. Green buildings are aesthetically pleasing and use state-of-the-art technology. This will enhance the libraries public image. Environmental issues are becoming more and more popular, by going green, libraries show that they are keeping up with the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### Savings \$\$

Environmentally friendly buildings sometimes cost less up front. Reduce your energy consumption and see a difference in your utility bills. Avoid expensive downstream costs from elaborate mechanical systems, expensive redesigns, drawn-out approvals, litigation, stalled construction. Recycled paper, environmentally safe cleaners, and other green products are often cheaper.



For questions, comments,  
or additional information,  
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**Getting  
Started  
Going  
Green**



## REDUCE, RE-USE, RECYCLE: LITTLE THINGS MAKE A DIFFERENCE



### Computers

- Shut down when not in use.
- Manually put in low power mode.
- Use the system's

power management features and skip the screen saver.

- Use environmentally, less expensive means of cleaning keyboards and equipment.
- Use recycled ink cartridges and recycle used ones.
- Dispose of old equipment without dumping it in a landfill and purchase slightly used PC systems at a discount. Green Tech Initiative offers this service to non-profits.

### Water

- Retrofit plumbing and reduce water temperature settings.
- Use drought friendly plants and recycle rainwater for watering and landscaping purposes.

### Air

- Install carpets made of recycled, low-emitting fibers.
- Use environmentally friendly cleaning products instead of harsh chemicals
- Plant a tree outside and have potted plants indoors.

## REDUCE, RE-USE, RECYCLE: LITTLE THINGS MAKE A DIFFERENCE



### Paper

- Re-use paper that has only been printed on one side to print drafts or temporary information and as scratch

paper.

- Use recycled paper or certified paper (paper that comes from forests that are managed to protect wildlife habitat and respect the rights of local communities).
- Use more electronic sources. Send hold pickup and overdue notices via e-mail.

### Fuel

- Use alternate fuel vehicles, hybrids, etc.
- Help patrons via phone and internet.
- Place bike racks outside of the building and encourage employees to join in with "Bike to Work" week.

### Lighting

- Use skylights and natural lighting as much as possible.
- Use energy efficient light bulbs and ballasts and turn them off when not needed.

### Educate and Encourage Patrons

- Sponsor programs and share information that highlight the library's green initiative and encourage patrons to share ideas.

## CLEANING GREEN: SAFE, NON-TOXIC ALTERNATIVES



### Carpets

- Use club soda on small carpet stains.
- Use baking soda and crushed lavender or

basil for carpet freshener.

### Bathrooms

- For everyday toilet cleaning, sprinkle lemon juice and baking soda and let it sit.
- For more thorough toilet cleaning, spray vinegar, sprinkle with baking soda, and scrub.
- Use baking soda, water, and a little elbow grease to clean sinks.

### Glass/Windows

- Mix 1/2 cup vinegar with a gallon of water, spray, and wipe.
- Use straight up lemon juice or club soda. If you use club soda then newspaper is the best scrubber to use. If you use lemon juice then use an old less linty cloth.

### Furniture Polish

- Mix one cup of olive oil with 1/2 cup lemon juice in a clean, new spray bottle. Make sure to shake well before use. Spray on your cleaning cloth and wipe furniture. Use another clean cloth to polish the surface.