



Sustainable Paper

March 2015

OCP Sustainable Purchasing Program – Who We Are & What We Do

- Assist DC in meeting its sustainability goals by furthering green procurement of goods and services through:
 - Developing and maintaining environmental specifications for products and services
 - Offering training and online resources for DC Agencies and procurement professionals to assist in sustainable procurement
 - Vendor education and outreach
 - Consulting services for programs seeking to buy sustainable products
 - Tracking sustainable purchasing progress and recommending improvements to the program

Learning Objectives

- At the completion of this training, you will be:
 - Introduced to the benefits of procuring sustainable paper.
 - Introduced to the sustainable specifications for paper.
 - Informed of differences in cost and performance of products meeting the specifications compared to conventional products.
 - Aware of options for including more aggressive environmental attributes not included in the guidance specification.

Scope (Paper)

The paper specification addresses the following types of paper:

1. Copy, printer, and multi-purpose (all sizes, 20-24 lbs, 92-100 brightness)
2. Roll stock
3. Continuous
4. Construction paper
5. Newsprint
6. Offset

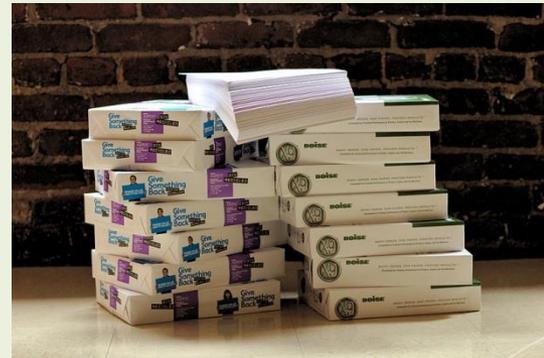


Image courtesy of Sage Ross

NOTE: Specifications for envelopes, file folders, notepads, napkins, and other office-related paper products can be found under **Office Supplies**. Specifications for toilet paper and paper towels can be found under **Cleaning Supplies**.

Importance

- The District spent ????? on paper and office supplies in FY11 – FY13
- Products with recycled content typically require less energy and water throughout their life-cycle
- The Paper specification promotes sustainable forestry practices resulting in significantly lower rates of deforestation
- The environmental benefits of purchasing recycled content products can be estimated using:
 - Environmental Paper Network's Paper Calculator, available at c.environmentalpaper.org/home
 - EPA's ReCON tool, available at epa.gov/epawaste/conserves/tools/warm/ReCon_Online.html

Benefits

If 100 DC office workers used 30% PCRC the District would save 17,000 gallons of water, and 36 trees annually.

If there are approximately 20,000 office-based workers in DC government and we all use 30% PCRC paper...

how much water, and how many trees would the District save in a year?

The District would save 3.4 MILLION GALLONS OF WATER.

The District would save 7,200 trees annually.

Paper Requirements

Specification Language

Paper purchased by the District of Columbia shall meet the environmental criteria defined below.

1. Paper shall contain at least 30% postconsumer recycled content (PCRC).
2. Paper shall be certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).



Review Background Section

Background Information



Postconsumer recycled content

(PCRC) reflects the proportion of a product recycled from consumer materials that otherwise would have been disposed. For paper, PCRC is measured based on weight, often

referred to as postconsumer waste (PCW). Along with many jurisdictions throughout the country, the [U.S. EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines](#) recommend purchasing uncoated office paper with at least 30% PCRC. Office paper containing 30% PCRC has been proven to perform well and is widely available in the marketplace at costs comparable to non-recycled paper. When buying recycled content paper, purchasers should ensure that the paper is rated for its intended use. Paper rated as multi-purpose meets the needs for copiers, laser printers, and ink jet printers. Other forms of recycled content not included in the specification include pre-consumer recycled content and total recycled content. Pre-consumer recycled content refers to the percent of a product made from manufacturing waste, while total recycled content refers to the sum of the postconsumer and pre-consumer recycled content. Note that the recycled content logo is not required. For more information, see EPA's product category definitions at epa.gov/epawaste/conserva/tools/cpg/products/define.htm.



FSC certification signifies that the [Forest Stewardship Council](#), an independent, third-party standard setting organization, has certified that a wood or paper product meets or exceeds FSC's criteria for sustainable forestry and supply chain

management. FSC certification requires that forest managers meet FSC's principles and criteria, including promoting biodiversity, protecting indigenous peoples' rights, and eliminating toxic chemical use. In addition, certification requires that each company in the supply chain retain and document FSC-certified content during the processing, manufacturing, and distribution process. FSC certification is highly regarded; it continues to be the only forestry certification recognized by [LEED](#). FSC-certified paper is widely available in the marketplace at costs similar to paper without the certification. FSC labels vary depending on the content they contain (ex. FSC Recycled, 100% Mixed Source, Controlled Wood). Paper products containing any of the available FSC labels meet the FSC requirement of the specification.

Post-Consumer Recycled Content (PCRC) Background

- Postconsumer recycled content (PCRC) reflects the proportion of a product recycled from consumer materials that otherwise would have been disposed.
 - PCRC is often referred to as postconsumer waste (PCW)
- Note that the recycled content logo is not required
- Paper specification for uncoated paper for printing services matches DC's paper specification.
- All recommended PCRC levels with EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines and regularly used by printers and specified for federal procurements.



Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certification Background

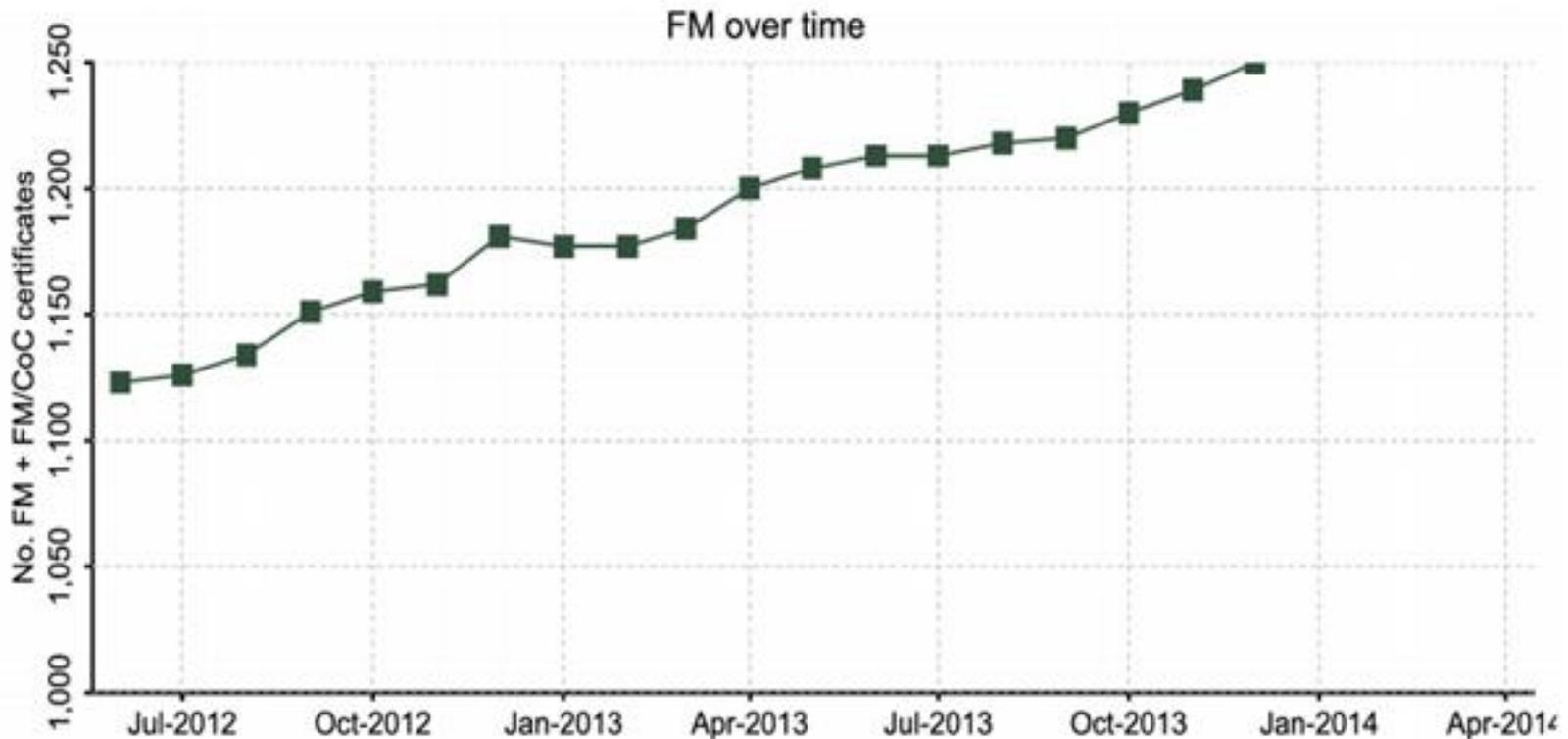
- To be certified by FSC, products must meet both the Forest Management and Chain of Custody standards:
 - Forest Management certification requires that forest managers meet FSC's principles and criteria, including promoting biodiversity, protecting indigenous peoples' rights, and eliminating toxic chemical use
 - All companies in the supply chain must hold Chain of Custody certification. Chain of Custody certification ensures that the companies retain and document the product's FSC-certified content throughout processing, manufacturing, and distribution
- District employees can verify the paper they are using is FSC certified by the presence of the FSC logo on the package. A list of paper products that are FSC certified is available here: <https://us.fsc.org/paper-printing.212.htm>
- While the specification requires use of FSC-certified paper, it does not require printers themselves to have Chain of Custody certification.



Cost, Performance, and Availability

- FSC-certified, 30% PCRC office paper performs well and is widely available in the marketplace.

FSC forest management certificate growth since 2012 (FM and FM/CoC)



Cost, Performance, and Availability

- According to local printing services and paper supply companies interviewed in 2014
 - 30% PCRC tends to be ~5% more than non-recycled paper; however prices fluctuate based on the job and the market.
 - Price premiums for paper may increase significantly when the percent post-consumer recycled content is 50% PCRC or more.
 - FSC certified paper is cost-competitive with conventional paper according to leading local vendors.

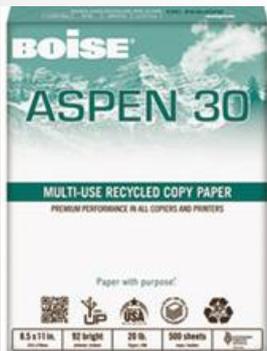
Market Research: Explore

Market Research

Tools:

- Internet
- Catalogs
- Other

Jurisdictions



SOS STANDARD
OFFICE SUPPLY

[Please Login](#) | [Register Me!](#)

OFFICE SUPPLIES

TECHNOLOGY

FURNITURE

MAINTENANCE & BREAKROOM

SHOP ALL CATEGORIES

FEATURED

Batteries & Electrical Supplies

File & Storage Cabinets

Safety & Security

Binders & Binding Supplies

File Folders, Portable & Storage Box Files

Shipping & Mailroom

Breakroom Supplies

Forms, Recordkeeping & Reference Materials

Shredders & Accessories

Calendars, Planners & Personal Organizers

General Office Accessories

Stamps & Stamp Supplies

Carrying Cases

Identification Badges

Staplers & Punches

Cash Handling

Index Dividers

Tags & Tickets

Classroom Teaching & Learning Materials

Labels & Stickers

Tape, Adhesives & Fasteners

Crafts & Recreation Room Products

Mouse Pads & Wrist Rests

Tools

Cutting & Measuring Devices

Paper & Printable Media

Writing & Correction Supplies

Desk Accessories & Workspace Organizers

Presentation/Display & Scheduling Boards

Envelopes, Mailers & Shipping Supplies

Room Accessories

Search These Results:

You've selected:

- ✗ Category: Office Supplies
- ✗ Category: Paper & Printable Media
- ✗ Category: Office Paper
- ✗ Global Product Type: Paper-Copier/Printer
- ✗ Size: 8 1/2 x 11
- ✗ Compliance Standards: FSC Certified
- ✗ Brightness Rating (US): 92

Filter Search Results:

BRAND

- Boise® (3)
- Hammermill® (1)

SHEETS PER UNIT

- 2500 (2)
- 5000 (2)

PAPER FINISH

- Bond (1)

MACHINE COMPATIBILITY

- Copiers (3)
- Fax Machines (2)
- Inkjet Printers (3)
- Laser Printers (4)
- Multifunction Machines (1)

BRIGHTNESS RATING (INTERNATIONAL)

- 104 (3)
- 105 (1)

PRE-CONSUMER RECYCLED CONTENT PERCENT

- 0% (1)

POST-CONSUMER RECYCLED CONTENT PERCENT

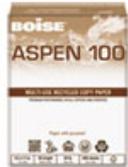
- 100% (1)
- 30% (2)
- 50% (1)

4 items found

Showing Items 1 to 4 of 4

Sort by Best Match

Select



[Quick View](#)

Boise®

ASPEN 100% Recycled Office Paper, 92 Bright, 20lb, 8-1/2 x 11, White, 5000/ CT

- Paper with purpose.
- Maintains the same hardworking characteristics and brightness as a non-recycled sheet.

\$227.73 / Carton

CAS054922

1 Qty

[Add to Favorites](#)



[Quick View](#)

Boise®

SPLOX 30% Recycled Office Paper, 92 Bright, 20lb, 8-1/2 x 11, White, 2500/ Carton

- Paper with purpose.
- Proven to reduce risk of musculoskeletal injury, fatigue and discomfort.

\$90.83 / Carton

CASSPR020

1 Qty

[Add to Favorites](#)



[Quick View](#)

Boise®

ASPEN 50% Recycled Office Paper, 92 Bright, 20lb, 8-1/2 x 11, White, 5000/ CT

- Paper with purpose.
- Maintains the same hardworking characteristics and brightness as a non-recycled sheet.

\$216.61 / Carton

CAS055011

1 Qty

[Add to Favorites](#)



[Quick View](#)

Hammermill®

Great White Recycled Copy Paper, 92 Brightness, 20lb, 8- 1/ 2 x 11, 2500 Shts/ Ctn

- Formulated with a flat, even surface for consistently high readability.
- Excellent performance in all plain paper office equipment.

\$180.55 / Carton

HAM67780

1 Qty

[Add to Favorites](#)

Select

Also Consider



UNV21200

\$177.42 / Carton

Copy Paper, 92 Brightness, 20lb, 8- 1/ 2 x 11, White, 5000 Sheets/ Carton

1

Consider this similar item!

SOSDP2000

\$154.00 / Carton

Copy Paper, 97 Brightness, 20lb, 8-1/2 x 11, White, 5000 Sheets/ Carton

1



SNANMP1120

\$97.64 / Carton

Premium Multipurpose Paper, 97 Brightness, 20lb, 8- 1/ 2x11, White, 5000/ Carton

1



UNV11201

\$14.78 / Ream

Colored Paper, 20lb, 8- 1/ 2 x 11, Canary, 500 Sheets/ Ream

1



HEW112000

\$18.50 / Ream

Multipurpose Paper, 96 Brightness, 20 lb, 8 1/ 2 x 11, White, 500 Sheets/ Ream

1

Showing Items 1 to 4 of 4

Sort by Best Match



Boise®

SPLOX 30% Recycled Office Paper, 92 Bright, 20lb, 8- 1/ 2 x 11, White, 2500/ Carton

Item: CASSPRC20

Packaging: CT

List Price: \$90.83 / Carton

Your Price: **\$90.83 / Carton**

Quantity:

[Add to Cart](#) [Add to Favorites](#)



Product Details

Technical Specs

Compliance Standards

FSC Certified

Global Product Type

Paper-Copier/Printer

Paper Weight

20 lb

Size

8 1/2 x 11

Paper Color(s)

White

Machine Compatibility

Copiers,Fax Machines,Inkjet Printers,Laser Printers

Sheets Per Unit

2500

Brightness Rating (US)

92

Brightness Rating (International)

104

Post-Consumer Recycled Content

Percent

30%

Total Recycled Content Percent

30%

Package Contents

Includes 2,500 sheets.

Beyond the Specification

- Recycled Content
 - Look for >30% PCRC
 - DDOE uses 50% PCRC
- Chlorine Free Bleaching
 - Bleaching process can result in the formation of harmful chemicals such as dioxins and furans, which are known to cause cancer in humans
 - **Most Preferred Option:** Process Chlorine Free (PCF)
 - No chlorine or chlorine-containing compounds used in the bleaching process for *recycled* paper
 - Generally available in paper with 50% to 100% PCRC (price premium)



Image courtesy of www.dreamstime.com

Beyond the Specification

- Use less paper!
 - Print double-sided!
 - Be sure that copiers and imaging devices are set to “duplex” both-side printing.
 - Go paperless.
 - Print on Demand: reduce waste by only printing the quantities you need.
 - Design materials to conserve space.



Image courtesy of www.dreamstime.com

Beyond the Specification

- Ecologo or Green Seal paper - must meet specifications
 - 30% PCRC
 - FSC certification
- Wood-free paper alternatives
 - Agricultural residues (e.g., sugarcane husk)
 - Fiber crops (e.g., hemp, kenaf, jute, flax, etc.)
 - Textile and cordage wastes (e.g., cotton, linen, rope)
 - Wild plants (e.g., bamboo, sisal)
 - Often more expensive than recycled paper
 - Rainforest Alliance is leading the development of an [Alternative Natural Fiber Standard](#) using ISEAL guidelines for standard development. Check status and review draft standard [here](#).



Image courtesy of www.dreamstime.com

Benefits

- **Environmental benefits** of recycled-content paper can be calculated with the Environmental Paper Network's Paper Calculator, available at <http://c.environmentalpaper.org/home>