

Environmental Sustainability Policy

The Smithtown Library commits to reducing its impact on the environment. The Library will strive to improve its environmental performance over time by way of participating in projects, activities, and practices that will further reduce environmental impacts. The Library's commitment to environmental sustainability extends to its patrons, administration, employees and the community at large.

The Library will:

- Observe all applicable environmental laws and regulations
- Prevent pollution whenever possible
- Train all staff on the Library's environmental sustainability program, empowering employees to participate
- Communicate the Library's environmental commitment to patrons, administration, staff and the general community
- Continue to measure the Library's environmental impacts and setting goals to annually reduce them

All employees will receive a copy of this policy upon hire, and be educated regarding the Library's efforts to continue to strive to meet the "triple bottom line" definition of sustainability, which states that to be truly sustainable, an organization must embody practices that are environmentally sound, economically feasible, and socially equitable.

Energy Management

The Library will strive to attain energy efficiency, working to identify and utilize whenever practical products and equipment that are the most energy-efficient. Methods such as Energy Star and CEE rating systems will be used whenever practical to identify and select products that are the most energy-efficient and which meet the Library's needs.

The Library will seek to reduce its overall use of energy, optimizing equipment settings and schedules to meet the needs of the community, staff, and service programs while achieving the highest energy efficiency.

Materials Management

The Library will endeavor to donate deaccessioned materials to not-for-profit organizations whenever practicable, purchase supplies only as-needed, and purchase sustainably-produced, recyclable materials whenever practicable.

Transportation

The Library will encourage efficient travel practices when travel is required. Best practices, such as carpooling and using technology to remotely hold and attend meetings, will be employed whenever practicable.

Land Use

The Library will strictly observe all laws pertaining to land use, as well as practice general conservation stewardship regarding its policies and practices.

Water Reduction/Conservation

The Library will endeavor to reduce its use of water in the buildings and on the grounds and keep waters clean. This will be achieved through a combined approach involving equipment selection, policy, and practices.

Solid Waste Management

The Library will follow its written waste disposal procedures, developed in partnership with the appropriate vendors and pertaining to garbage and recyclable materials. The Library will endeavor, whenever practicable, to dispose of equipment and supplies that have reached the end of their useful lives by either donating them to a not-for-profit organization(s) or recycling them through the services of the Town or of an appropriate vendor.

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