



Carnegie-Stout Public Library
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Sustainable Materials Purchasing

The Carnegie-Stout Public Library will purchase sustainable materials for usage in the building, especially in the areas of office equipment and supplies, furniture, furnishings, and building materials. To ensure sustainability in purchasing, all equipment, supplies, and furnishings must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Contains at least 70% salvaged material from off site or outside the organization.
- Contains at least 70% salvaged from onsite through an internal organization materials & equipment reuse program.
- Contains at least 10% post-consumer or 20% post-industrial material.
- Contains at least 50% rapidly renewable materials that are planted and harvested in less than a 10-year cycle. This includes bamboo flooring, cork flooring, linoleum flooring, kenaf paper, sunflower seed board, wheatgrass cabinetry, and wool carpet and upholstery.
- Contains at least 50% materials harvested and processed or extracted and processed within 500 miles of the Carnegie-Stout Public Library.

The criterion a purchase meets should be appropriate to the item purchased. For example, paper purchases should meet the post-consumer or post-industrial requirements, while flooring and cabinets should meet the rapidly renewable materials or local materials requirements.

Purchases that do not meet these criteria must be approved by the Library Director.

Paper/Plastics

The Library participates in the City of Dubuque's purchasing program for some materials, including office paper. All office paper is at least 30% post-consumer content. Trash can liners used meet EPA requirements for recycled plastics and post-consumer content.

Office Equipment

Currently, all office equipment in the library is Energy Star certified. This includes copy machines, postage meters, computers, and microfilm readers. All future purchases of office equipment will be ENERGY STAR certified.

Building Supplies

In the recent renovation, the Library installed a KONE EcoSpace elevator, which uses considerably less energy than a conventional hydraulic elevator and does not require oil. The Library also recently purchased Andersen Eco Berber mats for high-volume entryways made of 56% post-industrial materials.

Carpeting and carpeting cushions purchased meet the Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI) Green Label certification and future replacements, as needed, will meet this standard.



Paula Connors, President – Library Board of Trustees

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