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# Environmentally Preferred Sourcing Program

## EPS Toolkit: Checklist

**When starting a sustainability program, the most frequent question is usually, “Where do we begin?”**

To help make the process of adopting a sustainability program easier, the Vizient™ Environmental Advisory Group developed a checklist of activities ranging from the easy to the more complex. Start with one or any number of them to help ignite your program!

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### Beginner level

- Charge for to-go containers in the cafeteria
- Convene a green team
- Create and communicate an environmental statement
- Eliminate mercury
- Have an office supply swap
- Conduct Earth Day events
- Install bike racks
- Institute a “no perfume” rule
- Join Practice Greenhealth
- Let Vizient know of your interest and successes
- Perform a waste audit
- Recycle aluminum and steel
- Recycle batteries
- Recycle cardboard and paper
- Recycle construction materials
- Recycle electronic equipment
- Recycle fluorescent light bulbs
- Recycle kitchen grease
- Recycle toner cartridges
- Return or recycle pallets
- Encourage employees to ride share
- Set computers to go to blank screen when not in use
- Set goals
- Use an eco-friendly print font
- Use reusable sharps containers

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### Intermediate level

- Compost leftover food
- Develop environmental program policy criteria
- Donate or sell used equipment
- Educate staff on environmental program policy and goals
- Eliminate latex
- Set double-sided copies as copier default
- Hire a sustainability coordinator
- Hold staff recycling contests

- Install light sensors
- Institute a scrubs and uniform swap
- Install LED lighting
- Perform a water audit
- Plant a vegetable garden
- Plant native landscape
- Power down electronics in nonclinical areas

- Reduce blue wrap usage through use of rigid containers
- Remanufacture medical devices
- Start a farmers market
- Support LEED construction principles
- Use cloth diapers
- Work with utilities on an energy audit and a plan to take action

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## Advanced level

- Add renewable energy to the mix
- Collect rain runoff for watering
- Eliminate cafeteria fryer
- Eliminate DEHP
- Eliminate PVC
- Eliminate Styrofoam brand containers
- Implement a pest management program
- Incentivize employees to use alternative transportation
- Install a green roof
- Institute a surcharge for unhealthy foods

- Use locally sourced food
- Properly dispose of pharmacy waste (regulatory requirement)
- Reduce paper through electronic funds transfer
- Reuse cooling tower water
- Use hybrid or electric company vehicles
- Use anesthetic gas capture
- Incorporate a digester to reduce food waste
- Limit sugar use in beverages

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## Ongoing efforts

- Assess and celebrate success
- Communicate with senior leadership
- Engage and communicate with staff

LED = light-emitting diode  
 LEED = leadership in energy and environmental design  
 DEHP = diethylhexyl phthalate  
 PVC = polyvinyl chloride

The Vizient Environmentally Preferred Sourcing (EPS) Program offers members supply and service cost savings through more than 36,000 supplier agreements. EPS suppliers have verified EPS attributes and provide products that can support members' sustainability objectives. This toolkit is a resource to help members create or enhance their sustainability programs.

As the nation's largest member-driven health care performance improvement company, Vizient provides network-powered insights in the critical areas of clinical, operational, and supply chain performance and empowers members to deliver exceptional, cost-effective care.



To learn more, contact us at [eps@vizientinc.com](mailto:eps@vizientinc.com).