

Environmental and Sustainable Purchasing Policy

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Part of RAISE's ongoing stewardship efforts is the recognition that economic growth and sustainability must be integrated with a respect and care for the environment. Our stewardship efforts are focused on nurturing leadership for inclusive and sustainable communities, and a responsibility to the environment.

Wherever and whenever possible, we are committed to reducing the impact of our business operations on the environment and demonstrating leadership by integrating environmental considerations into our wider business practices and processes.

To accomplish this goal, we have created the following Environmental Policy, with a two-fold purpose in mind:

- 1) **Conscious Operations:** To further our commitments to stewardship, both within our company and in the broader community in which we operate.
- 2) **Conscious Purchasing:** To develop long-term, sustainable purchasing practices that reduce our environmental footprint and increase our social and economic accountability.

Conscious Operations

RAISE is committed to minimizing the environmental footprint of our own operations through establishing best practices and ongoing management and monitoring of our use of energy, water, emission levels, transportation and accommodation considerations, and material consumption.

Conscious Purchasing.

Buy With Purpose.

Before purchasing anything, we ask all coworkers whether the purchase is truly necessary. Could our business thrive without the purchase? Could we reuse something we have already? Could we buy something that will last longer so that it doesn't need to be replaced later?

If the purchase is truly necessary for the success of our business, we encourage all coworkers to purchase materials, products, and services that incorporate environmental, social, community, and performance goals whenever it is practical.

RAISE's core value of stewardship extends to the environment, and we prefer the use of vendors and service providers who mirror our commitments in this regard. RAISE will consider the environmental performance of our suppliers and take into account the environmental impact of all products and supplies we purchase. We thus commit to purchasing products and services that are environmentally sound and socially beneficial. Accordingly, wherever a choice exists at reasonably similar price points, we will favour suppliers and materials, products, and services that have achieved external certifications such as Certified B Corp, Energy Star, Fair Trade or Forestry Stewardship Council certification.

Buy Local.

When we buy local, we participate in an economy of interdependence between ourselves and our greater community. Accordingly, to grow this relationship and support our community, we prefer the use of local vendors and service providers to purchase materials, products, and services whenever possible and practical for the operation of our business.

This policy is to be reviewed annually in order to ensure progress on our environmental policy.