



## Sustainable Procurement Guide for Grounds Maintenance



Federal Agencies are required to purchase recycled content products designated under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (CPG), biobased products designated under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) BioPreferred program, energy-efficient products designated under the EPA's EnergyStar program or the Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP), and water-efficient products designated under EPA's WaterSense program. Procurement of these types of sustainable products is required by statute, Executive Order, and Federal Acquisition Regulations, unless an exception applies. Information about documenting exceptions to these requirements is located in the Army Installation Green Procurement Program Implementation Guide.

Grounds maintenance activities at Army installations, whether performed by contractors or in-house Army staff, must comply with these requirements. The checklist provided below is a guide to sustainable products that may be used when conducting grounds maintenance services. This checklist is not inclusive. Visit <http://www.sftool.org/GreenProcurement> for a comprehensive list. Purchasing information for these products is provided on the back side of this Quick Guide.

### Grounds Maintenance Products

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural spray adjuvants | <input type="checkbox"/> Animal repellents               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compost                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Compost activators/accelerators |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dethatchers                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Erosion control materials       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fertilizers                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Hoses                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydraulic mulch              | <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation control products     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigations services         | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn and garden edging          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mulch                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic lumber                  |

When contracting for grounds maintenance services, applicable requirements for sustainable products and services must be incorporated into work statements and specifications; this includes recycled and biobased materials, environmentally preferable products, energy- and water-efficient products, and products free of toxins and ozone-depleting substances. When developing the contract requirements, review the current list of EPA- and USDA-designated products to identify if the contract involves the purchase or use of these products. If yes, ensure the specifications/product descriptions require recycled or biobased material content. The following websites offer sample contract language for incorporating sustainable products into grounds maintenance contracts:




- FedCenter (<http://www.fedcenter.gov/programs/buygreen>)
- USDA (<http://www.dm.usda.gov/procurement/programs/biobased/GroundsMaintenanceFY08.pdf>)
- Sustainable Facilities Tool (<https://sftool.gov/greenprocurement/green-services/3/landscaping-services>)



**Buy Wisely, Buy for the Future!**



## PURCHASING GUIDE MATRIX – FACILITIES AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE PRODUCTS

Product	Preference Program <sup>1</sup>			Minimum Content Levels	Availability				GSA Award Schedule(s)
					EMALL	GSA Advantage	GSA Global Supply	AbilityOne	
Agricultural spray adjuvants		X		50%					
Animal repellents		X		79%		X			Schedule 51 SIN 341 500
Compost		X	X	95% <sup>2</sup> 100% <sup>3</sup>					Schedule 51 V SIN 341 100 Schedule 51 V SINs 105 001 & 002
Compost activators and accelerators		X		95%					Schedule 03 FAC SIN 371 001 Schedule 51 V SIN 341 100
Deicers		X		93%					Schedule 73 SIN 681 1, 2, & 4
Dethatchers		X		87%					Schedule 03 FAC SIN 371 001
Erosion control materials		X		77%					Schedule 56 SIN 563 8
Fertilizers		X	X	71% <sup>2</sup> 100% <sup>3</sup>		X			Schedule 51 V SIN 341 100 Schedule 51 V SINs 105 001 & 002
Hoses			X	60-70%		X	X		Schedule 51 V SIN 341 800 Schedule 51 V SINs 105 001 & 002
Hydraulic mulch			X	100%					Schedule 51 V SINs 105 001 & 002
Irrigation control technologies	X					X			Schedule 56 SIN 563 25
Landscape irrigation services	X								Schedule 51 V SINs 105 001 & 002
Lawn and garden edging			X	30-100%		X			Schedule 51 V SINs 105 001 & 002
Mulch		X		95%		X			Schedule 51 V SINs 105 001 & 002
Plastic lumber			X	30-100%		X			Schedule 51 V SINs 105 001 & 002 Schedule 51 V SIN 341 11 Schedule 56 SIN 563 229

<sup>1</sup>  = WaterSense,  = Biobased,  = Recycled Content

<sup>2</sup> Biobased content

<sup>3</sup> Recycled content

### SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING TIPS

- Purchase perennial plants rather than annual plants.
- Purchase and plant native species and pollinator-friendly species of plants.
- Purchase or require use of electric tools rather than gas tools. Purchase or require use of tools with 4-cycle engines rather than 2-cycle engines.