

# MBC Aquatic Sciences

## Environmental (Green) Policy

**MBC Aquatic Sciences** (MBC) recognizes that our work may have a direct or indirect effect on the local, regional, and global environment. MBC is committed to reducing any harmful effects on the environment and promoting the understanding of sustainability in its broadest context.

MBC's policy is comprised of the following four components:

- Purchasing / Waste Reduction / Recycling
- Energy and Water Saving
- Travel
- Hygiene, Health, and Safety

The following describes the steps taken and potential target items to comply with this policy.

### **Purchasing / Waste Reduction / Recycling**

It is most effective to minimize waste at its source. All purchasing decisions should take into account the environmental factors involved in production, use, and disposal of the product (whenever possible). MBC will purchase recycled content and environmentally preferable products unless such products do not perform satisfactorily and/or are unreasonably expensive. Current efforts include:

#### Purchasing / Waste Reduction

- Copy and printer paper—shall contain a minimum of 30% post-consumer recycled content
- Remanufactured laser toner cartridges and remanufactured or refillable inkjet cartridges
- Paper plates and bowls – minimum 30% post-consumer recycled content
- Paper towels – 100% post-consumer recycled content
- Coreless bath tissue in all restrooms – 100% recovered material with a minimum of 25% post-consumer recycled content.
- Send and store information electronically when possible (including e-mail / electronic fax)
- Reuse boxes and packing materials for shipping and storage (whenever possible)
- Use internet ordering and combine orders when possible to limit travel to local stores
- Use local suppliers to minimize shipping and delivery impacts

#### Recycling

As of September 2012, use Waste Management (WM) 2-yard FEL recycling dumpster, WM BatteryTracker, WM LampTracker, and WM Ink Cartridge & Toner Recycler to facilitate the recycling efforts below:

- Boxes, cardboard, copy and printer paper, newspaper, cans, glass and plastic bottles, catalogs, promotional materials, mailings
- Batteries
- Used fluorescent light tubes
- Laser toner and inkjet cartridges

Other local companies are used for recycling:

- Old retired files are shredded and recycled – not sent to landfill
- Old computers, printers, and electronics

In-house recycling:

- Sample preservatives (i.e. isopropyl alcohol, ethanol, formalin)

## **Energy and Water Saving**

Energy production consumes valuable non-renewable resources and causes massive pollution. Water is a valuable commodity in southern California due to our continuing drought conditions. Current efforts include:

### Energy Saving

- Replacing older T-12 fluorescent lighting and ballasts with energy-efficient T-8 bulbs and ballasts, new LED fixtures, or LED bulbs with no ballasts (98% complete)
- Utilizing Enviro-Safe TCLP compliant low mercury fluorescent lamps (wherever possible) in the remaining fixtures (above)
- Rewiring office and laboratory space to allow ½ of the lights to be turned off during lower need or occupancy periods (100% complete)
- Utilizing motion sensors for outdoor lights
- Turning off lights and equipment when not in use
- Replacing incandescent lights and flood lamps with compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) (95% to 98% complete)
- Replacing restroom manual light switches with timed switches or “occupancy sensor” switches (100% complete)
- Replacing thermostats (HVAC) with programmable thermostats and maintaining temperatures at recommended levels (i.e. heating 68°F / cooling 78°F)(100% complete)
- Installing screen doors to minimize air conditioning use
- Replacing old HVAC units with new energy-efficient YORK units (1 of 3)
- Setting defaults to turn off or “hibernate” computers and monitors after 1 hour of inactivity
- Replacing CRT computer monitors to energy efficient LCD/LED flat screen monitors (100% complete)

### Water Saving

- Replace toilets with high efficiency 1.1GPF/ 1.6GPF dual-flush low volume toilets (100%)
- Replace restroom and kitchenette faucets with low-flow faucets (100%)
- Fill sink or bucket with water when cleaning equipment, gear, vehicles, or vessels
- Use hose with shut-off sprayer when a bucket can not be used
- Repair water leaks when first noticed
- Notify landscape maintenance company if automatic sprinklers are malfunctioning or causing run-off

## **Travel**

MBC’s goal is to reduce the impact of vehicle emissions by encouraging the application of sustainable principles to traveling by combining field surveys and arranging meetings.

- Use of MBC’s hybrid vehicles whenever possible
- Sharing company vehicles to get to work site
- Voluntary ride sharing to office

## **Hygiene, Health, and Safety**

While conforming to industrial safety legislation, all work places should acknowledge the worker’s need for an acceptable working environment and should implement greener practices whenever possible.

- No smoking policy
- Use of “green” cleaning products
- Use of “green” insect control products
- Use “Formalex Green” to neutralize the toxic properties of formalin