



POLICY

Dublin San Ramon Services District

Policy No.:	P200-07-1	General
Type of Policy:		
Policy Title:	Green Business	
Policy Description:	Green Business Policy includes environmental compliance, pollution prevention, energy conservation, and solid waste reduction	

Approval Date:	July 17, 2007	Last Review Date:	2007
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Rescinded Resolution No.:	69-03	Rescinded Resolution Date:	Dec 16, 2003

It is the policy of the Board of Directors of Dublin San Ramon Services District:

The mission of the Dublin San Ramon Services District is to provide customers with competitively priced, high quality water and wastewater services in a manner that is socially and environmentally responsible.

The District holds as a core value that a successful business is dependent on a healthy environment and we must actively work to be environmentally responsible to our community by complying with all applicable regulations; conserving energy, water, materials and other resources; developing and implementing practices that prevent pollution and waste, and demonstrating environmentally responsible business within our community.

In support of our mission, the District is committed to:

Operations

- Meeting all legal and regulatory compliance requirements, including those established by the Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Department of Health Services, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration in regulations and permits.

Recycled Water

- Recycling water for landscape irrigation, conserving potable water, and keeping the service area green with recycled water even in times of drought.
- Reducing the amount of treated wastewater that has to be pumped over the Dublin Grade to San Francisco Bay, and reducing electrical pumping costs by redirecting all usable wastewater towards local and regional water needs.

Facilities and Equipment

- Planning, designing, constructing, and operating facilities in an efficient and effective manner as a neighbor in the community and a resident of the environment.
- Preparing the appropriate environmental review for new construction as well as improvements at its existing facilities.
- Demonstrating its compassion to protect wildlife where appropriate by delaying work on reservoirs and construction on various improvements to preserve the natural environment for golden eagles, grebes, red-legged tree frogs and other affected species.
- Incorporating energy efficient design practices into all its facilities.
- Purchasing tools and equipment that produce low emissions or are energy efficient.

Water Conservation

- Encouraging water conservation by its customers.
- Providing water conservation low-flow devices to customers.
- Maintaining a Water Conservation Demonstration Garden located on the east side of the District Office at 7051 Dublin Boulevard, which serves as a demonstration project to encourage customers to replace water thirsty lawns with drought tolerant plants.

Energy Management

- Capturing the methane gas generated by the digesters and using this renewable energy source to produce electricity and hot water for heating and air conditioning for the Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility, which not only conserves energy, but also saves the District hundreds of thousands of dollars annually on electric costs.
- Constructing and operating a fuel cell energy system at the Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant in order to produce electricity. This system will use digester gas to generate electricity for the operation of wastewater treatment process, with emissions so low that the Air Quality Management District does not require a permit.
- Utilizing a 9/80 alternate work schedule (eighty hours in nine days) during the summer months, thereby allowing the District to turn off the air conditioning, computer equipment, and lights every other Friday, saving energy and money.

Waste Reduction

- Implementing programs to reduce or eliminate pollution and waste.
- Participating in single-stream recycling of paper products, cardboard, plastics, and aluminum cans, thereby reducing solid waste.
- Conducting a collection and recycling program for mercury thermometers, thermostats, batteries, and fluorescent tubes to help prevent mercury from polluting our environment and contaminating San Francisco Bay.
- Advocating pollution prevention of waterways, and has strived to educate and inform customers of ways they can contribute to pollution prevention.
- Using recycled materials when available.
- Using alternatives to hazardous substances whenever possible.
- Reducing the use of paper in the District's business.

Education and Community Involvement

- Providing educational presentations and programs for students and civic groups, and one-on-one consulting for customers related to water conservation, pollution prevention, and water recycling, and providing readily available information on these topics in brochures and on the District website.
- Conducting educational programs in area schools promoting water conservation, recycling water and pollution prevention.
- Publishing news, information and tips on ways to conserve water, recycle water and prevent the pollution of water in various District publications.
- Participating in community events such as *Day on the Glen*, *St. Patrick's Day Parade*, and *Dublin Pride Week* promoting water conservation, water recycling, and pollution prevention.
- Participating in and endorse staff participation in community projects that contribute to cleaning up the environment, conserving natural resources and preventing pollution of waterways.

Support Green Business Programs

- Providing funding for the Alameda County Green Business Directory.
- Achieving certification for District facilities as a Green Business according to the Alameda Green Business Programs.
- Working with the County of Alameda Green Business Program and other local wastewater agencies to develop criteria for wastewater treatment plants to become certified as *Green* businesses.

Work with Staff and Customers

- Raising management and employee awareness by including *Green* business practices in performance appraisals, job descriptions, training programs, and employee orientations.
- Encouraging staff and customers to avoid the use of gas-powered vehicles and equipment.
- Encouraging staff and customers to use public transportation on *Spare the Air* days.
- Encouraging District business customers to use recycled materials.
- Encouraging vendors and contractors to adopt similar *Green* Business policies.

This Green Business Policy shall be implemented in a manner that is responsible, fiscally prudent, and in accordance with the approved budget.