

Middleton Public Library Environmental Policy

Environmental Mission Statement

The Middleton Public Library encourages activities that promote stewardship of our environment through the provision of environmental and ecological collections, and the development of environmentally inspired practices, programs and workshops.

Objectives

1. Reduce wasteful use of fossil fuels, scarce metals and minerals that accumulate in nature.
2. Reduce wasteful use of chemicals and synthetic substances that accumulate in nature.
3. Reduce encroachment on nature.
4. Meet human needs fairly and efficiently.

Practices

A. Priority

The Middleton Public Library embraces and recognizes environmental management as an important component to the operations of the library. Through policies, practices, services and programs, the library will strive to encourage and promote sustainable development and environmental stewardship.

B. Planning

When possible, the library will integrate environmental deliberation into planning processes. The library will evaluate environmental impacts before starting new projects and activities.

C. Assessment

The library will conduct informal, periodic reviews of activities to ensure compliance with the library's environmental mission and policy.

D. Operations

The library will strive to conduct operations in a manner that protects the environment, safeguards health and conserves materials and precious resources.

E. Services

Within the library's means, services will be developed with the least detrimental impact on the environment.

F. Products

When possible, the library will make environmentally and socially conscientious purchasing decisions, (Products that can be recycled, reused or disposed of safely and properly, and obtained from local or fair trade vendors.)

G. Waste Management

The library will reduce waste and recycle when possible. Waste, such as E-waste that can't be reduced, recycled, reused or composted, will be disposed of via responsible and safe methods.

H. Conserving Energy & Resources

The library will endeavor to minimize energy and resource consumption through improved efficiencies and conservation.

I. Staff Education & Performance

Library staff will be educated, trained and motivated to manage their activities using environmentally responsible methodologies.

J. Environmental Education

The library will provide environmental information and resources to the staff, patrons and community through dialogue, collections and programs. The library website and newsletter will be utilized with the intent to reach a broader audience.

K. Promotion of Environmental Practices

The Library will encourage good environmental practices within the profession through sharing of resources, ideas and experiences.

L. Relationship Building

The Library will build and maintain constructive relationships with environmental groups, public officials, patrons, staff members and concerned citizens.

M. Review

This policy will be adopted into our Library Policy document and reviewed by the Library Board on a regular basis.

Adopted: February 10, 2009