

## 1. Overview of Organization

Name of Organization: Practice Greenhealth

Website: <https://practicegreenhealth.org/>

Email: [info@practicegreenhealth.org](mailto:info@practicegreenhealth.org)

Funding Sources: Membership dues; consulting services

Organization Type: Non-profit

Partners: (At the bottom of the webpage, shows the logos for supporters) <https://practicegreenhealth.org/topics/environmentally-preferable-purchasing/getting-started>

Location: USA

Mission: "Practice Greenhealth is the nation's leading health care community that empowers its members to increase their efficiencies and environmental stewardship while improving patient safety and care through tools, best practices and knowledge." <sup>i</sup>

## 2. Sustainable Purchasing Activities and Resources

1. Environmental Purchasing Terms

<https://practicegreenhealth.org/pubs/epp/EPPTerms.pdf>

2. Model EPP Policies

<https://practicegreenhealth.org/topics/environmentally-preferable-purchasing/getting-started/epp-policies>

3. Benefits of Environmental Purchasing

<https://practicegreenhealth.org/topics/environmentally-preferable-purchasing/getting-started/benefits-environmental-purchasing>

## 3. Sustainable Purchasing Guidance Materials

### 1. 10-Step Guide to Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP)

<https://practicegreenhealth.org/pubs/epp/10StepEPP.pdf>

Used by Practice Greenhealth members, these ten steps are "a helpful guide when starting to use contracting and procurement activities to prevent environmental problems and costs." <sup>ii</sup>

Year Guidance was Published: Unknown

Access: Full public access

Types of Purchasers: Hospitals/healthcare

Regional Focus: USA

Languages: English

*Topics covered:*

✓✓ environmental sustainability      ✓ social sustainability      economic sustainability

*Steps:*

✓✓ Supplier engagement; ✓✓ Obtain management support; ✓✓ Establish an EPP team;  
✓✓ Establish EPP program goals; ✓✓ Designate responsibility; ✓✓ Prioritize next steps; ✓✓  
Consider pilot projects; ✓✓ Continuous quality improvement; ✓✓ Expand efforts; ✓✓  
✓✓ Communicate and celebrate success; ✓✓ Apply for awards

## 2. How to “Green” Your Conferences, Meetings or Events

<https://practicegreenhealth.org/pubs/epp/GreenYourMeetingsEvents.pdf>

“This guide provides an overview for meeting planners on what to consider in reducing the impact of meetings and events and lists some of the available resources.”<sup>iii</sup>

Year Guidance was Published: 2009

Access: Full public access

Types of Purchasers: Hospitals/healthcare

Regional Focus: USA

Languages: English

*Topics covered:*

√√ environmental sustainability social sustainability economic sustainability

*Product categories covered:*

√√ Food and beverages; √√ exhibit production; √√ event registration materials

*Service categories covered:*

√√ Accommodations; √√ meeting and event venues;

√√ transportation; √√ communication and marketing

## 4. Observations

Practice Greenhealth offers members guidance on greening purchasing spending for hospitals and healthcare organizations (organizations that combined purchase large quantities of goods and services). Some of the guidance on EPP is provided available publicly; however, additional documents such as a comprehensive set of product category guidance and model contract language are provided to members. Our analysis was limited to the publicly available information. Most of the guidance focuses on environmental aspects, with occasional references to social impacts and economic cost savings generated. The 10-Step Guide covers many steps that other organizations also recommend, but does not provide detail on how to complete the steps.

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<sup>i</sup> Practice Greenhealth. *Mission*. Accessed from: <https://practicegreenhealth.org/about/mission>

<sup>ii</sup> Practice Greenhealth. *10-Step Guide to Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP)*. Accessed from: <https://practicegreenhealth.org/pubs/epp/10StepEPP.pdf>

<sup>iii</sup> Practice Greenhealth. (2009). *How to “Green” Your Conferences, Meetings or Events*. Accessed from: <https://practicegreenhealth.org/pubs/epp/GreenYourMeetingsEvents.pdf>