ARNOLD & PORTER LLP

### HOW TO MAKE YOUR LAW PRACTICE GREEN





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# What Is A Law Firm's Environmental Impact?

- Arnold & Porter LLP
  - 51 million sheets of paper per year or
    6120 trees per year



- Flight miles (3 million pounds CO<sub>2</sub>/year)
  - 6.7 million flight miles 2006
  - 7.9 million flight miles 2007 (18% increase)
- Eight offices: HVAC, lighting, technology, etc.





### Why Bother?

- Heavy use of resources is inconsistent with a sustainable future
- Decreasing energy use and waste causes reduced manufacturing and disposal
- Makes clients happy
- Saves money



#### **ABA/EPA'S Law Office Climate Challenge**

- Voluntary program developed jointly by the American Bar Association Section of Environment, Energy and Resources and the EPA.
- Composed of 3 programs:
  - The Waste Wise Initiative
  - The Green Power Partnership
  - The Energy Star Program



#### **Waste Wise**

- Focus of program is paper usage.
- Each lawyer generates between 20,000 and 100,000 pages of paper every year.
- Approximately 1 million U.S. lawyers = 20-100 billion pages per year.
- Participants are recognized as a Climate Challenge Leader if 2 of these 3 practices are followed:
  - Employ double-sided copying for at least 50% of internal pages
  - At least 90% of office paper is at least 30% post-consumer recycled content
  - Recycle at least 90% of discarded office paper



#### **Green Power Partnership**

- Encourages participants to cover at least part of their energy usage by purchasing "green power" – i.e., power generated from renewable energy resources such as wind, solar or water power.
- Law firms that lease space can buy "renewable energy certificates," which support these energy resources.
- Effect of this approach is to support the growing market for renewable energy while reducing demand for conventional polluting power sources.



## **Energy Star Program**

- Participants pledge to reduce energy usage by 10%
  - Purchasing energy efficient equipment, including computers, monitors, printers, refrigerators
  - Using motion sensing lights that turn off automatically
- Visit ABA's Web page to enroll
  - www.abanet.org/environ/ecochallenge



#### **The Green Office Policy**

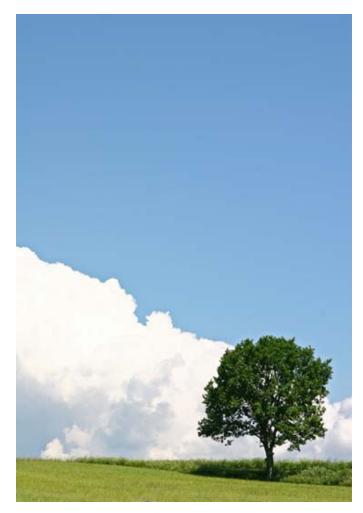
	ARNOLD & PORTER ILP
	en Office Initiative: old & Porter LLP Environmental Policy Statement
eco cân env	old & Porter LLP recognizes the importance of protecting the system, conserving natural resources, reducing the potential for global ate change, increasing awareness of our collective impact on the inonment, and thus is committed to conducting all of its operations in an ironmentally sound manner with these goals in mind.
pos	old & Porter's environmental policy is intended to create long-term tive environmental benefits, minimize the consumption of natural surces and energy whenever possible, and protect our employees and ms as members of the global community.
	rder to protect the environment, in all of its offices around the world, old & Porter will strive to:
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Am	ald & Porter will strive to: provide healthful and safe workplaces; use recycled paper and other materials; minimize waste in the use of materials; reuse or recycle the materials we do use;
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Am	ald & Porter will strive to: provide healthful and safe workplaces; use necyclied paper and other materials; minimize waste in the use of materials; reuse or necycle the materials we do use; purchase equipment with low electricity and water demands; use non-toxic materials for cleaning, maintenance, and other operations; when building or renovating space, use recycled or renewable

- Our first step was to draft and adopt a broad environmental policy
- Firm leadership quickly adopted and announced the policy and we began to implement changes consistent with our commitment to environmental stewardship

Arnold & Porter's environmental policy is intended to create long-term positive environmental benefits, minimize the consumption of natural resources and energy whenever possible, and protect our employees and clients as members of the global community.



### **The Green Team**



#### Establish a Green Office Initiative Working Committee

- Representative from Each Office
- Associates
- Partners/Counsel
- Management
- Operations
- IT
- Support Staff

# Establish a "Green Team" email distribution list



#### **Examine & Eliminate Wasteful Practices - Paper**

- Can reduce printing
  - Set default to double-sided printing (instituted April 2007)
  - Switch to paper with 30% post-consumer waste
- Eliminate Wasteful Practices
  - Convert internal communications from paper to email
  - Eliminate printing faxes (can save tens of thousands of pages each month)
  - Automate personal account statements, overtime, other reports





#### **Examine & Eliminate Wasteful Practices - Paper**

- Other paper products and vendors
  - Convert from yellow to white recycled legal pads
  - Prefer vendors who use recycled paper
  - Convert all paper products to recycled or biodegradable products
    - New ecotainer coffee cups, cafeteria products



Holiday Cards on recycled cardstock, e-cards





## **Green Offices: Energy**

- Inventory Energy Use and Make Changes
  - Highest impact areas: heating/cooling, lighting, office equipment
  - Install energy efficient lighting where it is not already in use
  - Install motion sensors in bathrooms and conference rooms
- Energy Star Equipment
- Replace CRTs with LCD screens



- Reset power savings settings on equipment
  - Set computer to default to sleep instead of screen saver
- Turn off lights, switch off power strip



### **Green Offices: Transportation**

- Offset Impact for Air Travel
  - Purchase credits to offset air miles
    - Rainforest restoration
    - Wind power investment
- Use Video conferencing/Webex
- Commuting
  - Preference for car services with hybrid cars
  - Consider a tire pump if have an office garage





#### **Green Offices: Other Waste Reduction**

- Water
  - Eliminate plastic water bottles. Replacing with pitchers, stainless steel water filtration systems in pantries and conference rooms
  - Install low flow toilets and faucets
- Reduce cafeteria, conference services waste
  - If have a cafeteria, donate extra food to a homeless shelter
- Electronics Recycling
  - Recycle old PDA's and cell phones
  - Electronics collection (CRT disposal)
- Director challenges ask each department to "green" their programs





#### **Partner with Green Vendors**

- Ensure your vendors use Energy Star products.
- Use a messenger firm with bicycle distribution.
- Check that your court reporting service uses less paper intensive practices.
- Buy food from vendors that provide locally grown and organic produce.



# **Considering Expansion**

#### Green Spaces

- Locate your office in areas that don't require use of green open spaces.
- Create a green space near, or on the roof of, your office.
- Reduce Air Conditioning and Heating Costs
  - Take advantage of natural light and shade.
  - Use building materials that reflect light.
- Use Recycled Materials for Flooring, Tiling and Carpeting.
- Review your Local Green Building Laws.



#### **Education Efforts**



- Start a Green newsletter
- America Recycles Day plastic bag contest
  - Collect plastic bags and provide the winners with reusable shopping bags
- Quarterly Lunch Program
  - Show "An Inconvenient Truth" firmwide on Earth Day
  - Other topics: calculating your carbon footprint, how to recycle, mass transit options



#### **Going Green in Your Individual Practice**

- Stipulating to Email Service
  - Check local court rules to ensure permitted. See CCP § 1010.6(a)(6); CRC 2.260(a).
  - File notice of agreement to accept electronic service OR electronically filing a document with the court (where permitted). See CRC 2.260(a)(2).
  - Electronic service is complete at time of transmission, but extends time to respond by two court days. See CCP § 1010.6(a)(6).
  - Different rules may apply in "complex cases" where court orders a central depository, see CRC 3.751, and class actions, see CRC 2.253.



### **Going Green in Your Individual Practice**

- CD filings where permitted by the Court
- Signing letters electronically and sending by email only
  - Electronic signature or /s/
- Using electronic folders and sub folders to organize documents, rather than printing and creating voluminous binders.

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## What Can You Do?

#### Reduce

- Electricity Consumption
- Gasoline Consumption
- Water Consumption
- Paper Consumption
- Junk Mail
- Recycle
  - Waste
  - Compost
- Rejuvenate
  - Organic
  - Sustainable seafood





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