

Environmental Sustainability at EVCC

A Policy Development Model

Introduction and Summary

“Environmental sustainability” can be defined as the ability to meet the needs of today's people and environment without compromising that of subsequent generations.

- Sustainability means long-term cultural, ecological and economic health and vitality.
- Environmental sustainability is a process that maintains and enhances economic opportunity and community well-being for every segment of society while protecting and restoring the natural and social environment upon which people and economies depend.
- Sustainability so defined calls for actions which are ecologically sound, economically viable, and socially just and humane.

Everett Community College can have an impact on environmental sustainability and environmental justice by insuring that principles and core concepts of environmental sustainability are a driving force in our partnerships with the community-at-large and a key factor in every aspect of our operations and implementations.

The purpose of this model policy is to provide a means to pursue responsible environmental sustainability as a matter of public policy consistent with the College's primary educational mission. An effective policy regarding sustainability will include the following elements:

- **Community Involvement**
- **College and Campus Operations**
- **College Purchasing Policies**
- **Methodology for Implementation in the areas of**
 - **Budgeting**
 - **Campus participation**
 - **Assessment/review**
 - **Reporting**

As a public institution, Everett Community College has an ethical and civic obligation to safeguard a critical public resource – the natural environment. The College also has a duty to establish physical environments and organizational practices that are conducive to student learning and the health, well-being, and effectiveness of all people within the College. Everett Community College can have an impact on environmental sustainability and environmental justice by insuring that principles and core concepts of environmental sustainability are a driving force in our partnerships with the community-at-large and a key factor in every aspect of our operations and implementations.