

At our MPower Orientation and TNS Workshop, we invited you to consider the following questions:

In what ways is our company meeting the Four Conditions of The Natural Step by...

- *...decreasing our dependence on fossil fuels and other material taken from the Earth's crust?*
- *...decreasing our dependence on human-made substances that are persistent and toxic?*
- *...decreasing our dependence on activities that physically destroy the environment?*
- *...contributing to opportunities for people to meet their needs?*

To help you consider these questions, here are some common practices for creating a sustainable workplace:

COMMUTING AND TRANSPORTATION

- Incentivize carpooling, biking, and/or public transport use for employee commute
- Select fuel-efficient or hybrid vehicles when renting during business travel
- Purchase fuel-efficient or hybrid vehicles for company fleet
- Restrict idling in company vehicles

WASTE REDUCTION

- Place a recycling bin near every waste bin and use clear labels
- Use digital documents whenever possible
- Choose paper with the highest "post-consumer" recycle content that meets your needs
- Conduct a waste audit
- Ban bottled water other disposables; use reusable dishes, mugs, and utensils

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- Turn off personal computers and monitors at the end of the day
- Schedule an energy assessment with Focus on Energy
- Use day-lighting whenever possible
- Raise AC and lower the heat by 2 degrees
- Purchase renewable energy through MGE's Green Power Tomorrow program (or similar)

WATER STEWARDSHIP

- Install low-flow or dual-flush toilets and automatic faucets
- Plant rain gardens
- Landscape using water efficient, native plants

ORGANIZATIONAL PROCESS AND EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

- Connect company values and mission to green team activities
- Create a green team vision and mission
- Use local suppliers for office supplies
- Survey employees to learn about their knowledge and interest in sustainable practices
- Create a suggestion box for employee feedback – and reward/recognize successful ideas
- Participate in Workplace Giving Campaigns (e.g. Community Shares of Wisconsin and United Way)

SUSTAINABLE FOOD

- Source local food for the cafeteria
- Become a CSA pick-up site and encourage employees to join
- Find out if your insurance provider offers rebates for CSA memberships