

DRAFT
9 MARCH 2009

NCPLDA Eco-Audit Task Force: The North Carolina Green Library Project (name can be changed as well as any other aspect of this proposal).

Purpose: To advocate and support environmentally responsible program and management practices in North Carolina Public Libraries.

Background: NC Public libraries are in a unique position within local communities to influence positively governmental and general resident awareness of and response to environmental issues. Mission centered, the public library can provide a full range of information and programming on the topic. As a building and business within the community, it also can be a model for environmentally appropriate facilities and other maintenance and service resource management. The members of NCPLDA should assume a leadership role in helping to foster public awareness and response this area, developing a statewide response within the professional community, and focusing community attention on our profession's positive response to a critical local and global issue. To date, there does not appear to be a statewide campaign among public libraries to accomplish such a set of tasks which could bring positive visibility to the profession within the state and the profession in the state nationally.

Goals:

- To provide information to the NCPLDA membership regarding the importance of environmental responsibility within the contexts of community information service and library management.
- To determine the criteria for best practice related to the above.
- To determine the extent to which that best practice is currently evident in North Carolina public libraries.
- To focus positive public attention locally and statewide on the profession's efforts to respond to the environmental

Approach: The Task Force Charge

- Review the available literature of best practice in this area
- Develop a survey instrument to determine current practice, levels of professional awareness of best practice, and areas of interest and concern related to this topic among the NC Public Library Directors. Task Force members will examine existing audit instruments and develop one specifically to meet the intent of this project. It will be distributed through Survey Monkey.
- Develop other awareness and educational options for the profession as appropriate in collaboration with the NC State Library.
- To develop and collaborate with other appropriate agencies (State Library and ??) in a statewide campaign to focus community attention on public library efforts to implement best practice in this area.

Suggested Activities and Timeframe

- March 2009
 - announce project at NCPLDA and receive feedback
 - develop an eco-audit for all public library directors
 - field test
 - Create a webpage and Blog on the NCPLDA website (to share “green” information and accomplishments).
- April (Earth Day Month)
 - Complete survey
 - Develop Report with Recommendations
 - Develop Press Release
 - Develop article for LJ or AL (begin process for publication)
 - Eco-Task Force (with additions as warranted and volunteers abound) continues to monitor and push the effort
- August
 - Prepare full report for NCPLDA

Suggested Reading

- LJ Article from Nov 1 on Global Warming
<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6606477.html>
- American Libraries, April 2008, Going for the Green which includes our own Skip Auld and the Durham County Library <http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala>
- Monika Antonelli The Green Library Movement: An Overview and Beyond. Electronic Green Journal, Volume 1, Issue 27 2008
- Others as you think appropriate.???????

The members are
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