

## **SUSTAINABILITY POLICY**

The Elting Memorial Library believes that the natural environment is a key asset to the Town of New Paltz, now and for future generations. The Elting Memorial Library is committed to minimizing adverse effects of library activities on the environment, and to leading the community in sustainable practices. The Elting Memorial Library will implement practices that promote the health of employees, patrons, and the environment. To support this goal the library will do the following:

1. **Operations:** The Elting Memorial Library will integrate environmental considerations into the operating the library, including procurement of office, cleaning, and catering supplies. The Elting Memorial Library will also prefer vendors and products that offer non-toxic, recycled, and recyclable content.
2. **Facilities:** The Elting Memorial Library will use natural resources, including electricity, gas, and water, as efficiently as possible. The Elting Memorial Library will aim to reduce the usage of water and energy. The Elting Memorial Library will upgrade to more efficient water and energy systems where feasible as technology advances.
3. **Waste:** The Elting Memorial Library will minimize waste by choosing recycled and recyclable products, and products with minimal packaging, wherever possible, and by promoting recycling in the library among staff, patrons, and suppliers.
4. **Education:** The Elting Memorial Library will communicate the commitment to environmental quality to staff, vendors, and patrons. The Elting Memorial Library will encourage employee participation in environmentally sensitive practices, and support innovative strategies to reduce the library's footprint.
5. **Continuous Improvement:** The Elting Memorial Library will seek opportunities to improve environmental performance at all times.

Adopted: October 27, 2022