



**R**ecycling and  
**E**nvironmental  
**A**ction  
**P**lanning  
**S**ociety

# Greening Your Office

...one tip at a time!

We care about the environment and we know you do too. Your office is a great place to make little changes that make a big difference. Here are some ideas to help you do just that. Provided monthly by R.E.A.P.S., we hope they inspire you to create change!

## GREEN TIP #91:

November 2017

## Eco-Friendly Uniforms

There are several things to consider when implementing a mandatory staff uniform. Considerations to be made include *material*, *quality* and *frequency* (how often staff must wear them) of the uniforms.

The choice of *material* being used for a uniform can make a huge impact on the environment. A plastic-polyester blend has potential to decrease the impact the uniform has on the environment. This special blend can be made from recycled plastic bottles and tends to not wrinkle meaning the garment won't have to be dry cleaned or ironed, thus, conserving energy.

The *quality* of the item being chosen is a key factor. Depending on the size of the business, 100's of uniforms may be needed. It is better to purchase items of high quality and longevity instead of inexpensive uniforms that will need to be replaced every few months.



The correct amount of uniforms should be purchased depending on how often the staff must wear them and for what occasions (i.e. *Frequency*). For instance, if a staff member is only provided one shirt that he/she must wear for 5 days a week, the garment will have to be washed several times in that one week. If staff are provided with two or three uniforms, they can all be washed in one load at the end of the week. Perhaps staff could wear their uniforms only for important meetings or outings (depending on the occupation). This means the uniform may only need to be washed once a week, thus, also saving energy.

*Do you have any questions or suggestions? Call or email us at [green\\_solutions@reaps.org](mailto:green_solutions@reaps.org)!*