

Earth-Friendly Products



Why Choose Earth-Friendly Products?

Using products that are less harmful to the earth will make our environment healthier and thus enhance the health and well-being of all. Reducing dependency on non-renewable resources will help assure a supply for future generations.

Rewarding businesses that produce earth-friendly goods, or those that use methods of production and packaging that are gentle on the earth, encourages these businesses to expand such practices.

Suggestions:

Organic foods are far easier on the environment to produce and are healthier to consume.

Buying “Green” means buying things that reduce harmful influences on the environment.

Websites of groups that give guidance for buying green are:

- www.coopamerica.org
- www.buygreen.com
- www.thegreenguide.com
- www.epa.gov

EPA labels products for their water efficiency and performance. Look for this:



By buying items marked with this label, you can expect good performance, savings on your water bills, and assurance that you are saving water for future generations.

Avoid Toxins:

The air in our homes can be filled with harmful fumes from cleaning agents. Indoor air quality is an important contributor to asthma. Non-toxic cleaning products help make the air in homes healthier. Green products also keep fewer toxins from entering the water supply.

Avoid petroleum-derived ingredients, phosphates, chlorine bleach and sodium hypochlorite, EDTA and

NTA – all of which are particularly toxic. Also avoid difficult-to-recycle aerosol containers.

Use environmentally-friendly cleaning materials like vinegar, lemon juice, baking soda, borax and olive oil. They are effective, less expensive and better for the environment.

Labels can be particularly helpful in choosing products

Look For:

- Recycled
- Organic
- Biodegradable
- Non-toxic
- No animal testing
- No genetically-modified organisms

“48... The environment is God's gift to everyone, and in our use of it we have a responsibility towards the poor, towards future generations and towards humanity as a whole.”

Caritas in Veritate,
Pope Benedict XVI

Useful Websites:

http://www.eartheasy.com/live_nontoxic_solutions.htm

<http://www.care2.com/greenliving/five-basics-for-nontoxic-cleaning.html#>

<http://www.ecomall.com/greenshopping/coamerica.htm>

Helpful Books:

Clean House, Clean Planet

Karen Logan

Clean and Green

Annie Berthold Bond

<http://www.anniebbond.com/>

Easy Green Living: The Ultimate Guide to Simple, Eco-Friendly Choices for You and Your Home,

Renée Loux



Updated in 2009 by: Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Office

U.S. Province • The Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

391 Michigan Avenue, NE • Washington, DC 20017

202-529-4505 • To download for distribution go to: www.omiusajpic.org