

Go Shopping For The Planet!

Here are a few Environmental Shopping Tips that you can use to support the Planet and all of her Children through your purchase choices. With a little forethought and planning our daily lives can reflect our values and our desire to support Life!

- Buy Organic! Not spreading toxins in our own environments is a way of showing concern for our own health. Buying products created through organic methods is a way of showing concern for the Planet's health!
- Buy cruelty free products. Even if you are not a vegetarian, factory farms hurt. Search for humane farmers in your area. Look for items not tested on Animals.
- Bring your own bag. Reuse bags or get reusable canvas bags.
- Support companies that support the Planet and all of her children. Buying products created in sweatshops, by children, or in countries that do not support human dignity and freedom is not in alignment with supporting Life. Stay informed regarding corporations that have poor environmental records and show your distaste by not giving them your dollars.
- Instead of replacing broken items with new items, consider having them repaired.
- Share things! Network with friends to share resources such as power tools, camping equipment, and steam machines. Share items that no longer used with the community by clearing unused items out often and donating to local thrift shops or organizations that hold garage sales.
- Make a list before you go shopping. So many things are bought on impulse, and stores know this. They purposely place frivolous items in highly visible areas hoping to catch your eye. Over consuming is one of the greatest causes of waste in the U.S.
- Remember the Library. A public resource, books, videos, magazines can all be borrowed saving on the materials used to create them.
- Use solar powered calculators, radios, watches and other items to avoid having to buy batteries. If buying batteries is necessary, consider rechargeable or recycled batteries as an alternative. Disposable batteries contain toxic chemicals and manufacturing them takes about 50 times as much energy as the batteries produce.
- Use water or vegetable based paints, stains and varnishes. Avoid the use of spray paint altogether.
- Encourage the stores you shop at to carry products that are not heavily packaged. Look for reduced packaging, and items packaged with recycled materials.
- When buying paper and plastic products look for those made of recycled products.
- Look for durable high quality goods. You may spend more now, though over time you will save money and material by purchasing things that last.

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