

BUY RECYCLED PRODUCTS



Recycling goes beyond just putting something in a recycling bin. Recycling is successful only when recycled materials are processed and remanufactured into new products and returned to the market for consumers, businesses and organizations to buy. When purchasing products always look for recycled-content options. Manufacturers often list the amount of post-consumer recycled content their product contains.

Post-consumer recycled content is material collected from consumers and then reprocessed.

HOW TO START A BUY-RECYCLED PROGRAM:

COMMITMENT	Make a commitment to buy products with recycled-content. Get support from management and develop a company policy on buying recycled products.
ELIMINATE OBSTACLES	Revise bid specifications to require minimum percentages of post-consumer recycled content in products. Remove clauses from specifications that mandate use of virgin materials when equivalent recycled content materials exist.
KEEP QUALITY STANDARDS HIGH	Test recycled products to determine their effectiveness before purchasing them in large quantities, and gradually phase in your program. Many companies offer free samples of their products, so you can see what works best for you. New and better recycled products are continuously coming onto the market.
EDUCATION	Educate employees and customers about the benefits of your program through newsletters, bulletin boards and staff meetings. Include information on recycled content in your supplies, such as: "Printed on 100% Recycled Content Paper" where appropriate and keep employees updated with data on resources saved to show how they are making a difference.

FIND RECYCLED-CONTENT PRODUCTS

SAN MATEO COUNTY RECYCLEWORKS

www.RecycleWorks.org, select "Buy Recycled."

The RecycleWorks Buy Recycled Database offers places in San Mateo County to find recycled products for your business or home.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES RECYCLING AND RECOVERY (CALRECYCLE)

www.calrecycle.ca.gov/rcp or www.calrecycle.ca.gov/RecycleStore

CalRecycle offers a recycled product database that is a comprehensive listing of recycled content products available statewide. This database contains more than 10,000 listings and over 2,000 suppliers.

FLUSHING THE FORESTS

Forests are being destroyed to make toilet paper, facial tissues, paper towels and other disposable paper products.

You can help stop this destruction by making smart shopping decisions and buying recycled.

Visit <http://www.nrdc.org/land/forests/tissue.asp> for information on recycled content products.

QUESTIONS?

Visit www.RecycleWorks.org
or call (888)-442-2666

