

GO GREEN GLOSSARY



Terms to help
you choose more
eco-friendly
products

Biodegradable

A material that is capable of decomposing in nature within a relatively short period of time

Compostable

Materials that are able to be composted or will biodegrade in warm, moist conditions with oxygen and bacteria over periods of several weeks to months

Energy Efficient

Products that use less energy

Nontoxic

Products containing no harmful, poisonous or destructive substances

Post-Consumer Waste (PCW)

Indicates that materials used to make a product were recovered or otherwise diverted from the solid waste stream after consumer use. If this term is not noted, the material probably came from excess material generated during the normal manufacturing process

Process Chlorine Free (PCF)

Recycled-content paper that is bleached without the use of any chlorine or chlorine derivatives

Rechargeable

Batteries and chargers to replace one-time use batteries

Recyclable

Materials that can be collected, separated or removed from solid waste stream for use in the manufacturing of another product

Recycled

Products that have been produced using materials that have been recovered from the solid waste stream, either during the manufacturing process or after consumer use

Remanufactured

Items made from parts of previously used products

Renewable Energy

Items with alternative energy sources such as solar power or manual crank

Responsible (or Sustainable) Forestry

Paper products made from certified “well-managed” forests

Rewritable

Storage devices (CDs, DVDs, etc.) that enable reuse

