



# Eco-Friendly Glossary

*Eco-Friendly, Environmentally Friendly or Planet-Friendly is a product or process that has little or no impact on the environment. This includes products, services and actions that do not negatively impact the Earth and its resources. Here is a list of terms that will help you sound like a professional on your sales calls.*

**BAMBOO GARMENTS** – Bamboo is 100% naturally grown, without assistance from man. Bamboo is 100% sustainable, it is also naturally antibacterial & Bamboo fibre is 100% biodegradable. As the fastest growing plant in the world, bamboo grows to its maximum height in about 3 months and reaches maturity in 3-4 years. It spreads rapidly across large areas. Because of this, bamboo is known to improve soil quality in degraded and eroded areas of land.

**BIODEGRADABLE** – The ability to break down, safely and relatively quickly, by biological means into the raw materials of nature and disappear back into the environment.

**BONDED LEATHER** – Bonded leather is a recycled man-made material containing elements of recycled leathers, leather scrap & tannery leather fibres, which otherwise would go to a landfill. Bonded leather can also be known as Finecell, Leatherboard, Composition Leather or Split Leather. Bonded Finecell is describing the print finish on the material. Bonded leather generally contains: 66% Reclaimed Leather Fibres, 30% Natural Latex, and 4% Tanning Oils.

**COMPOSTABLE** – A product that is made of materials that will break down over time in a landfill.

**CORN PLASTIC** – Derived from corn & 100% biodegradable

**COTTON-ORGANIC** – Organic cotton is grown without the use of synthetic fertilizers, growth regulators, chemical pesticides, irrigation or genetic engineering.

**CYCLEPET** – Recycled PET into fabric prevents it from ending up in the landfills.

**GREEN** – The movement that incorporates environmental awareness, social responsibility, bioregionalism, and nonviolence. “Green” is often inappropriately used to describe any effort to be more environmentally friendly.

**ORGANIC** - Products created through a system of farming that maintains and replenishes soil fertility without the use of toxic and persistent pesticides and fertilizers. According to the Organic Trade Association, organic growers and handlers must be certified by third-party state or private agencies or other organizations that are accredited by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**ORGANIC LEATHER** – Organic leather is from skins that are tanned using only vegetable extracts and chemicals approved by TUV. All possible by-products are also re-used. Organic leather is also non allergenic. It has been discovered that normal chrome leather produce toxic chrome when incinerated and when sent to and land fill sites will not decompose fully.

**PET** – Polyethylene terephthalate is the most popular thermo plastic packaging material used for drinks and food. It is lightweight, transparent, and has a good moisture barrier, making it good for bottled mineral water, food trays for oven use, videotapes, and mechanical components. PET soda bottles are the most recycled container.

**POLYPROPYLENE & NON-WOVEN POLYPROPYLENE** – Polypropylene is made up from carbon and hydrogen, and is manufactured without any dangerous emissions. Polypropylene can be recycled, incinerated, or land filled without any harm to the environment. When burnt, polypropylene will only give off water vapor and carbon dioxide, which is converted by photosynthesis. Polypropylene is sometimes known as “pp”.

**POST-CONSUMER MATERIAL/WASTE** – Term used to describe material that is being reused/recycled after it has been in the consumer’s hand (i.e. soda bottles, yogurt containers). Material or product used by the consumer for its original purpose and then discarded.

**POST-INDUSTRIAL MATERIAL** – Term used to described scrap or excess material that a manufacturer reuses or recycles throughout the manufacturing process.

**RECYCLABLE** – Materials that can be reused. They include glass, paper, aluminum, asphalt, iron, textiles, plastics and biodegradable waste.

**RECYCLED** – A term used to describe material that has been separated from the waste stream, reprocessed into a new product and then brought back to the consumer as a new item.

**RECYCLED CARDBOARD** – The material is made from cardboard that has been discarded or once used by a consumer.

**RECYCLED CONTENT** – The amount of pre-and post-consumer recovered material introduced in a material production process, usually expressed as a percentage.

**RECYCLED LEATHER** – Material is untreated and is made with leather scraps – recycled to save waste. (As opposed to scraps going into a landfill, they are recovered and reprocessed to make leather material.)

**SAFE PLASTIC** – Truly biodegradable in landfills & composting, environmentally safe, no toxic effects, can be recycled.

**SOY/SOYA BEAN** – Soy/soya bean products are 100% biodegradable & non-toxic.

**SOY/SOYA WAX CANDLE** – The pure soy/soya bean wax does not give out dirty soot and it burns cooler, lasting approximately 33% longer. All natural, non chlorine bleached cotton wicks burns cleaner, cooler and longer, 100% biodegradable.

**TREE-FREE** – Paper products that are not made from bleached wood pulp, but from recycled, post-consumer waste (like previously used paper) combined with substances such as industrial hemp or organic cotton.