



GREEN ALERT



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The focus of Environment information System (ENVIS) is to disseminate environmental information to decision makers, policy planners, scientists and researchers across the world.

The CERC-ENVIS Centre focuses on 'Eco-labeling and Promotion of Eco-friendly Products.' This bi-monthly e-bulletin features latest news, developments and innovations in the field.

Edible coffee cups: Tasty and eco-friendly

Eco product of the month



To celebrate its 50th anniversary in UK, Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC) collaborated with UK-based Robin Collective, a group which specialises in experimental food, to create edible coffee cups. The hybrid cookie/candy cups are named 'Scoff-ee Cups' (a wordplay meaning 'to eat quickly').

The cups, which are still being tested, are made of a printable sugar paper wrap and cup-shaped cookie lined with a layer of heat-resistant white chocolate. The hot drink contained slowly melts the chocolate lining while the drinker is sipping

the brew. Some cups may be given specialty aromas.

Source: <http://greenprophet.com>

Be a green consumer

Green issue

'Going Green' means practicing an environmentally friendly and ecologically responsible lifestyle. It means making decisions to help protect the environment and sustain natural resources. There are lots of reasons to consider going green—too much trash, greenhouse gases, air and water pollution, damage to the ozone layer and saving money.



Eco-friendly practices: Switching from using conventional bulbs to compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) or light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs saves both energy and money. Other eco-friendly practices are turning the thermostat down two degrees in winter and up two degrees in summer. Replace bathroom and kitchen faucets with low-flow models.

Greener product choices: Buy only what you need is the first step to go green. When you buy, look for greener products and use products in ways that have less impact — on the health of your family, pets and the planet. Go for eco labelled products such as those rated high by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Craft Mark for apparel and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for buildings.

Verify green marketing claims: You may have concerns about 'greenwashing' and uncertainty about which ecolabels can be trusted. Here are some ways to help you sort through ecolabel marketing:

- Look for specific rather than vague statements about environmental impact.
- Determine whether the green marketing claims apply to the packaging, the product, or both.
- Beware of fake third-party certification.
- Search the Internet to find reliable environmental labels.

Reusing and recycling: Use fewer products and follow instructions for product use. Conserve energy, water and materials. Recycle items made of glass, metal, plastic or paper or dispose them of safely and properly. Other items such as car batteries, cell phones, televisions, paints, oils and solvents require special handling during disposal.

Source : <http://www.usa.gov>

Eco news

Solar-powered tablets make learning fun



Solar powered tablets have changed the education scenario in rural Karnataka. They enable children to use different tools and activities, open and navigate chapters and take quizzes in maths, English and science – all from their curriculum. Their teachers add additional information to the textbook content which increases the general knowledge of the children. edZilla, is a Bangalore-based company that develops software solutions to enable quality education in rural India. It enables NGOs operating in the area of rural education with technology and helps them raise funds. The NGOs purchase the tablets and provide them free to rural schools that face a severe shortage of teachers.

Source: <http://www.thebetterindia.com>

LEDs can save 90% power

A Nagpur University teacher has been doing research on development of eco-friendly LEDs which will save up to 80-90% power. His project Has been selected for funding by the Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences. LEDs have high luminous efficiency and are mercury-free. So, they are free from any type of hazardous emission and are not a threat to the environment. LED lamps have a lifespan of about lakh hours, which is staggering as compared to the 1,000 hours and 10,000 hours of tungsten filament bulbs and CFLs respectively. LEDs require a low operating voltage (three to nine volts) and could be powered by solar energy or batteries in areas where power is scarce.

Source: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com>



Just unplug it

Unplug electrical and electronic devices when they are not in use, specially gadgets that have a rechargeable battery. If the device is blinking, It is using electricity.

Eco tip of the month

Visit CERC-ENVIS website www.cercenvnis.nic.in and <https://www.facebook.com/EcoProductsEcoLabeling> to know more about our activities.

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