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Toilet Paper Choices

Company track-record

Our Shop Ethical! guide identifies the companies behind common brands and the social and environmental track record of these companies. It aims to make it easier for people to avoid companies with a negative track record and choose products from those with a more positive one. See toilet paper comparison here

http://guide.ethical.org.au/guide/browse/guide/?type=91

In addition to the 'company track-record', there are considerations relating the product itself which determine a 'better' buy.

Key Resources

- general overview of the issues, certifications WWF 'Don't flush forests down the toilet' http://wwf.panda.org/how_you_can_help/live_green/fsc/tissue_issues/
- Australian specific Choice report 2010 'Toilet Paper Greenwash'
 http://www.choice.com.au/reviews-and-tests/food-and-health/beauty-and-personal-care/toilet-paper/toilet-paper-greenwashing.aspx

Recycled content

A key issue with regards to toilet paper is the source of the raw material (paper pulp) used.

MOST preferable to LEAST preferable

(according to raw materials sourcing)

RECYCLED CONTENT

- 1. 100% post-consumer-waste (PCW) recycled content
- 2. greater % recycled content, the better

CERTIFIED PLANTATION

- 3. FSC
- 4. PEFC / AFC

PLANTATION

- 5. Uncertified- Australian made
- 6. Uncertified-Imported

OTHER

7. No information (likely to be native forest, Indonesia, elsewhere)

Other criteria

Other factors in considering a 'best buy' purchase:

- Bleaching (1st preference unbleached; 2nd preference oxygen-bleached, total chlorine-free, or elemental chlorine free; Avoid regular/chlorine bleached).
- Packaging (paper wrapped, plastic wrapped, single/double wrapped). Note regular plastic wrap is LDPE. This will not be recyclable if put into the common council curbside collections. (However it can be recycled at REDcycle bins for soft plastics at Coles. http://recyclingnearyou.com.au/news/display/553).
- Cost. What is your budget? What is the range of premium (ie. willing to pay 5% more)
- Do Users like it? (2-ply... can you get by?)

Options

Brands with recycled content include: SAFE, Naturale, Ecosoft, Envirosoft, Nature Soft, Forest free, Elite, Earthwise and Softex.

Check with supplier how it's wrapped, if this is a consideration for you.

Some Sourcing options:

Going Green Solutions

http://www.goinggreensolutions.com.au/ProductGroup.aspx?ID=32&mode=ws#.UhI WO3-pB Y

Two options, both with PCW

- Softtex from Qld pulp
- Green Earth imported (also from here http://www.promocean.com.au/wp-content/plugins/fgallery/fim photos.php?album=paper-products&image=recycled%20toilet%20paper%20green%20earth.jpg)

G & C Johnson Cleaning Supplies

(03) 9687 5801 - 72 Ashley St, West Footscray

They used to wholesale/distribute Encore products (SAFE). Worth a phonecall. Contact Encore Tissue (Aust) directly on 03 9931 1488.

Who gives a Crap

Promo vid

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=FPGOwE7LeXE#at=4 4 and website http://au.whogivesacrap.org/

(not sure where their product is sourced from ... Australia waste paper or other?)