



Recycling and
Environmental
Action
Planning
Society

Greening Your Office

...one tip at a time!

We care about the environment and we know you do too. Your office is a great place to make little changes that make a big difference. Here are some ideas to help you do just that. Provided monthly by R.E.A.P.S., we hope they inspire you to create change!

GREEN TIP #50:

June 2014

The Second Step

We all hear that first step to reducing the amount of waste we produce is to recycle. But what about the second step? Precycling is a term applied to thinking about what you are buying before you buy it. By thinking about what we are buying we can reduce the amount of non-recyclable waste that we generate. In general precycling is when we choose to buy items that we can recycle over items that we can not. This way of thinking can be used in with your office supplies as well.



The first step would be to only buy office supplies that can be either recycled, reused or refilled. Some examples would be to buy refillable pens over non-refillable ones. Buying products that only come in recyclable packaging. Some other suggestions would be refillable tape dispensers and reusing folders and boxes until they need to be recycled. Using paper clips instead of staples is another great way to reduce your waste.

When you are making these changes in the type of office supplies that you buy try to buy quality items as well. They may cost a little more but they can last longer and will reduce the amount of items that may end up in the landfill.

You can also be part of the solution by supplying products in recyclable packaging. This can be done simply by using crumpled paper instead or bubble wrap or Styrofoam to ship objects.

Whatever method you decide on remember that while everything is not recyclable at the moment if we start to think again we can reduce our waste.



Do you have any questions or suggestions? Call or email us at green_solutions@reaps.org!