



Barking up the Right Tree - Eco-Friendly Pathways to a Greener Planet

<u>Problem</u>	<u>Traditional Solution</u>	<u>Green Solution</u>	<u>How it will make a Difference</u>
1.) Bower peed on the floor again..and company is coming in a hour.	Mop up the mess with a paper towel, and then use bleach to finish the job	Get the job done by dousing a reusable rag with household vinegar	Vinegar is nontoxic and earth friendly, while bleach can be harmful to children especially when mixed with other cleaning agents, like ammonia While recycled paper towel are an option, a rag is more environmentally friendly.
2.) It's a dirty job but someone needs to scoop Fido's poop.	Use plastic bags for the grocery store to pick up after your doggie does his doodles.	Opt for biodegradable bags made of corn or soy, like those from Poop Bags or Biobags,which breakdown in a matter of months. (availbale at Benson's)	Each year, Americans throw away some 100 billion polyethylene plastic bag: the bags are made from a nonrenewable resource (oil), do not biodegrade, and can take thousands for years to break down
3.) Kitty is an indoor cat who does her business in a litterbox, but all that used litter has to end up somewhere.	Use standard clumping clay litter or sillca-based litter to deal with the mess	Switch to biodegradable litter made of pine, paper, wheat or corn, like World's Best Cat Litter or Swheat Scoop. In addition to being environmentally friendly, many of these all-natural litter are flushable.	With nearly 2 million tons of cat litter making into landfills every year, it's important that it can break down. Clay and silica litter produced by strip-mining, which means they are already in their natural state and won't decompose further.
4.) Animals are your passion, and you want to help a local shelter	Send over a check to help cover the operating cost or stop by to volunteer.	Try also donating old cell phones, printer cartridges, and computers to your local animal shelter.	When money and time are always appreciated, many nonprofits are able to make some extra cash recycling used electronics, while you can fee secure knowing that harmful chemicals like mercury or lead aren't ending up in a landfill.