How to Spot FAKE “Green” Products...

1. Watch for sneaky labels! Terms like “eco-friendly,” “green” and “gentle” are the kind of buzz words marketers’ love to splash all over their products. But...what do they actually mean? The problem this creates for you as a consumer is that advertisers can use such vague terms without having to back them up! You should always try to seek clarity; the better a “green” product defines its environmental ambitions on the label, the better the product is likely to be.

2. Beware eco tradeoffs! Think of the big picture when shopping for green items. Some manufacturers boast about their eco-intentions by using a percentage of recycled paper for their products. But what if, considering the emissions needed to recycle that paper, the materials used to make the product are actually worse for the environment than if the company manufactured the product through the conventional route? Beware of hidden tradeoffs...make sure, if a marketer claims it uses an eco-friendly process, it states just how that process is better for the environment.

3. Do your homework! Should you find yourself wondering about a certain item or product, simply pop its name into a search engine along with the word “environment” or “green” and see what comes back. Chances are if consumer advocate groups have a problem with the validity of a product’s green claims, you’ll find them here. If nothing shows up, you’re probably in the clear to go ahead and buy the product.

4. Stick to your guns! At the end of the day, even attempting to buy green is a step in the right direction. So if you end up getting duped by deceptive marketing, don’t fret. Buying products that at least claim to be green is better than not at all. By putting in the effort to go green, we are boosting the market demand for green products and doing our part to help make our world a better place.

Remember, there is no such thing as a perfectly “green” product; environmentally preferable products are “greener”, not “green”.

Just a Reminder...

SENDING/DROPPING OFF REQUISITIONS
As OPBS strives to monitor all incoming requisitions and DEV’s, we ask your cooperation when submitting a requisition by following the guidelines below:

If sending by interoffice mail, be sure you have:
- Required signatures (Dept. heads, budget officers)
- Purchase requisition number
- Correct budget numbers clearly noted

If dropping it off at the OPBS office:
- Hand it to someone at the front desk so that it can be logged in correctly. Please do not take it directly to a buyer.

Your cooperation will ensure that requisitions are processed in a timely fashion, and no important paperwork gets lost.
**Merry Christmas...** The OPBS staff wishes each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Click here for your Christmas card!
http://secure.smilebox.com/ecom/openTheBox?senadevent=4d6a41314e4441774d445a384e4455794e7a63334f546730d0d0a&sb=1

(Be sure and hit the ‘PLAY” button).

**OPBS Staff Profile...**

![Photo of Vicki Williams](image)

Vicki Williams, Procurement Specialist

Call Vicki for information pertaining to such areas as:

- Procurements exceeding $10,000
- Procurement issues
- OPBS Newsletter

**About Vicki...** Vicki started working in CCU’s Procurement Department in 1991. She accepted a position at Darlington County School District as Director of Procurement in 2006, but came back to the OPBS at CCU in 2009. She enjoys the challenges related to day-to-day Procurement activities as well as making your Procurement experience as straightforward and uncomplicated as possible.

**State Contract Update**

**Equipment Maintenance Management**

- Specialty Underwriters LLC
  - Contract #4400002980
  - 11/10 thru 10/31/15
  - Contact: Annette Roberts, Ext. 2161

**Building Inspection & Testing Services**

- Multiple Awards
  - 11/15/10 through 11/14/14
  - 5400002243

**Toilet Tissue, Paper Towels & Dispensers**

- Contract term: 11/16/10 thru 11/15/13
  - Southeastern Paper Group
    - Contract #4400002842
    - roupasa@sepapergroup.com
  - Grainger Industrial Supply
    - Contract #4400002841
    - Dwayne.jeffries@grainger.com
  - Dade Paper Company
    - Contract #4400002843
    - kmspadden@dadepaper.com
  - Janpak, Inc.
    - Contract #4400002842
    - tpfeiffer@sc.rr.com

**Industrial Supplies & Equipment**

- Grainger, Inc.
  - Contract # WSCA MA 7066 5000011208
  - 11/24/10 thru 2/28/11
  - Registration required at www.grainger.com prior to making purchases

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**UPDATES:** The building housing OPBS (formerly “Colors on Parade”, “Warehouse”, “Procurement”) has been given an official name, ATLANTIC HALL.

The OPBS newsletter has a new online look! Topics are organized alphabetically and monthly for your convenience. Check it out at http://www.coastal.edu/procurement/newsletter/

Testing is scheduled to begin for the new Web Advisor purchasing requisition in January, 2011.