

## TIPS FROM JEE

## RECYCLING IN KYOTO

The main point–reduce garbage by consuming less!

R Contact your city office and ask about recycling frequently. The more inquiries that come in about recycling, the more necessary it becomes for the city to respond and provide convenient systems. Gomi Genryo Suishinka (075-222-4091) can answer questions about garbage collection and recycling. General trash is collected twice a week in each ward. Put out your bags before 8 am.

Carry your own cloth shopping bag in order to refuse plastic and overpackaging. Say, "fukuro wa ii desu" at the counter. Nice cloth bags are available at Nanohana near Demachiyanagi Station. Stores will put a sticker on your merchandise instead.

- Flea markets are a great way to purchase and recycle. Kyoto City Hall sponsors a flea market at least three times a year. The Kyoto YWCA also has a thrift shop sale every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month (They accept donations of used items that are still in good condition to sell at sale).
- → Recycle newspapers and desk scrap paper separately. The newspaper collection system is well organized in Kyoto. Tie up your newspapers neatly and put them out in front of your house. Scrap paper and envelopes (remove tape, etc.) should be bundled separately. Magazines and cardboard boxes should also be stacked and tied up separately. Some collectors will take these (and used clothing too) but ask first to make sure. Sometimes there are neighborhood pick-up spots.
- plant to supply power to run all of Japan's vending machines. The cans also use up resources. Support mom and pop shops by purchasing face-to-face and always recycle your cans. Most areas of the city have a collection system. Pick up is twice a month and there are yellow and black signs which indicate the dates for that site.

To recycle cans: Look for this sign in your neighborhood. It gives the dates for empty can collections.



Find the eco-mark

空き缶 This Indicates the month of 収集場所 the year 収集日 These indicate the days on which cans will be collected Please put out 収集日の明8時までは your used cans お出しください before 8a.m.on 左京清播亦務所。(722-4345) the collection

₩ Buy refillable containers and products made from recycled materials to support the recycling movement. You can make sure a product is made from recycled materials by looking for the eco-mark or the kanji for 'recycled' 再生 (saisei). Recycled paper can be ordered from Eco-Paper® at Chubu Recycle in Nagoya (052-931-3439). Buy tofu from a local maker and take a container. Recycled toilet paper carries the 'eco-mark.'

€ Are you recycling your milk cartons too? Recycling milk cartons in Japan is quite popular and there are a number of collection sites. Most Coop, Daiei, and Izumiya supermarkets have collection boxes at the front or side. HELP, Nanohana, and other natural food stores will take back cartons which were purchased there. Some elementary school PTA groups also collect milk cartons as a fundraising project. Please rinse out the cartons, and slice them so that they lie flat when you take them for recycling.



- Take styrotoam trays back for recycling along with your milk cartons. Coop supermarket and some Izumiya stores offer collection of styrofoam trays. Not all trays can be recycled so check the sign by the collection box showing which types can. If possible, however avoid overpackaging because there is still not much use for the products that are made out of this recycled material. Shopping at organic shops is best!
- What to do with glass jars and bottles? Sake bottles, beer bottles, big soy sauce and sometimes salad oil bottles (in large brown bottles) that were purcansed at a liquor shop can be returned to the same shop for recycling. Some parts of the city have glass collection sites. There are big steel drums here for recycling glass which must be separated by color (amber, clear, etc.). Some liquor shops also allow the public to bring their glass containers for recycling but it is advised to get permission first.
- T Support organic farmers and fair trade outlets. Shopping at natural food stores that don't want to use chemicals is not only better for you, it's better for the earth. There are many places in the area that support healthier living ideas noted on the reverse side of this sheet. Please tell us about others too! In Kyoto, we recommend you join Disposable Lifestyle Thinkers Group (075-361-0222, shop at places like Nanohana and HELP, and eat out at restaurants that are concerned about using healthy ingredients and recycling. There are two groups you can mail order from based in Tokyo: Global Village (03-3705-0233 • F: 03-3705-0255) has a fair trade catalog that includes clothes, gift items, and foods and Tengu Foods (0429-85-8751) is a completely organic mail order outfit that delivers food right to your door.

## Japan Environmental Exchange

The Japan Environmental Exchange (JEE) is an international, volunteer-based environmental awareness group that offers a place for people to join in ongoing projects or start up new ones! We sponsor lectures, study groups, and eco-action projects and have an impressive library of alternative books in English.

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