

Green Protocols at O.W. Toad Ltd.

This is what we try to do.

PAPER

For the Office:

Acid-free paper that is 100% recycled and ancient-forest friendly (100% post-consumer recycled).

Paper that is free of elemental bleach.

Forest Stewardship Council has approval levels: check them.

For Book Publishing: Request these papers for books published.

Include this provision in the contract.

Useful links:

www.marketsinitiative.org

Personal paper needs for staff:

Recycled products such as Seventh Generation 100% Recycled Toilet Paper, Tissues, and Paper Towels.

Select unbleached paper products.

Non-disposable alternatives including handkerchiefs, sponges, and rags.

Useful links:

<http://www.environmentalchoice.com>

(Search under “Products and Criteria” to find a complete listing of products with the EcoLogo™ stamp of approval.)

CHARITIES

**** Notice to charities seeking endorsements & donations****

Solicitation packages, while an important part of fundraising efforts, generate a tremendous amount of wasted paper. The staff of O.W. Toad ask that you only send us one request per year and also consider offering an email option for future solicitations. Any company sending more than one request annually will not be considered for donations.

ELECTRICITY

We use Bullfrog Power, the first 100% Green electricity retailer in Ontario.

We replace incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent lights.

We use EnerGuide and Energy Star certified appliances where possible.

We try to turn off lights, computers, and (especially hard to remember) power bars when not in use.

WATER

We replace all leaky faucets (leaky valves and faucets can waste up to 400L of water per day).

We use environmentally friendly cleaning products. Visit

<http://www.grassrootsstore.com/index.asp?cm> for suggestions.

HEATING

We try to seal cracks and gaps around windows and doors.
We use a programmable thermostat.
Our staff wear layers.

AIRPLANE TRAVEL

We are trying to avoid it if possible. (The pollution caused by a Jumbo 747 Jet is comparable to lighting a gas station on fire and flying it overhead; and airplane emissions are directly linked to global warming, among other things).
When we must fly, we are now buying Carbon Neutral Credits. We realize that tree planting alone is not the best option; we prefer companies with other initiatives, such as solar power installations.

Useful links:

http://www.davidsuzuki.org/Climate_Change/What_You_Can_Do/carbon_neutral.asp.
<http://www.cdmgoldstandard.org/index.php>.
http://www.offsetters.ca/profile_how.htm.

BIRDS

Consult the following websites for information on how to protect avian species that are threatened by pollution, and most especially, manmade structures (between 1-10 million migratory birds collide with windows in Toronto each year).

Useful links:

<http://www.flap.org/>
<http://www.birdlife.org/>
<http://www.pibo.ca/>

OTHER LINKS:

For the carbon-free book tour by LongPen™

<http://www.longpen.com/lp-green.html>

Most specific recommendations are based on Canadian products and services available.