

Green office party tips

Go paperless Invite your clients and staff through a paperless evite. You'll save trees and money on paper invitations and stamps.

Decorate naturally Instead of typical paper streamers and balloons, consider decorating with small plants and Christmas decorations made from corn or maize. Supplied unpainted, your staff and clients will have fun decorating them with vegetable oil paints. These can be safely stored without biodegrading in their box and enjoyed year after year. You can also create ambience with soy or beeswax candles and avoid toxic fumes – while helping to cut down on electricity. visit: naturalcollection.com for great ideas.

Pick Organic Choose organic and locally grown food for your catering needs or hire a sustainable minded chef or catering company whose vehicles also run on vegetable oil or bio-diesel.

Sip Green Create fun, exotic cocktails made with organic vodkas, tequilas and wines and mix it up with organic fruits and juices. visit: smartsco.com for unusual cocktail recipes.

Give Eco-Friendly There are now a number of internet sites dedicated to selling eco-friendly products and gifts. These make great presents and also save you a trip to the stores. visit: projectconcern.org, ecoexpress.com, ecofriendlygifts.com and many others.

Green Gift Wrapping Enjoy your celebrations guilt free knowing that you've used the most eco friendly wrapping paper available today or get creative and recycle old clothes, ribbons and dried flowers. visit: sweetorganicsandnaturals.com

Green Christmas Tree There's a lot to be said for planning ahead. You can order your beautiful Christmas tree now from: christmastreeoregon.com, enjoy it on your deck or terrace this fall, transfer it inside for the holidays, and plant it permanently in your (or a friend's) yard next spring.

Lose the Plastic Disposables Use cups, dinnerware and silverware made from corn starch or sugar cane. Once the party is over these items can be thrown directly onto a compost heap to biodegrade. visit: letsogreen.biz