

“Greener” Office Supplies Can Make a Difference

Bigelow Tea explored “greener” options for office supply purchases this spring. As a result, Bigelow is now purchasing toner cartridges which are recyclable, as well as, 30% recycled copy paper for printers and copiers.

The environmental impact of using these “greener” office supplies versus non-recyclable toner and virgin paper will be an annual savings of:

- 10,598 gallons of water,
- 29 trees,
- 7,268 pounds of wood resources,
- 147 gallons energy equivalent to oil saved (i.e. equivalent to heat 1 average U.S. home for ½ year),
- 5,683 kilowatt hours (kWh) electricity saved (i.e. equivalent to power 1 average U.S. home for ½ year),
- 2,553 pounds greenhouse gas emissions reduced (CO₂) equivalents (i.e., equivalent to *not* driving an average U.S. car for 3 months) and
- 20,591,250 British Thermal Units (BTU’s) saved.* R.C. Bigelow continues to seek other environmentally friendly alternatives to run the business.

*Source: Environmental benefits calculated using the Environmental Defense Paper Calculator Tool, available at www.papercalculator.org. Energy equivalents calculated using Department of Energy data, used by organizations (including the EPA) to measure and contrast the environmental impacts of manufacturing different types of paper and different level of post consumer recycled content (PCRC).