

# Texas Toeprint

BUY GREEN to benefit both your hood and your fellow humans.

## NEWS



**POWER PLAY** Don't know how to offset your carbon footprint? Not even sure what a carbon footprint is? Dallas-based Current Energy offers tips and services that can make anyone into an eco-friendly convert. Its Web site provides a comprehensive list of ways to conserve electricity and natural gas, and a consultant can also come to your home to assess how you can be more energy efficient. For the tactile shopper, the brick-and-mortar store in Dallas is stocked with items ranging from the practical to the indulgent, such as eGO electric bikes, bamboo linens, Plum Island Soap's Natural Beauty gift sets, and hydrogen-fueled car kits for kids. Check the Web site for news on the Houston location set to open in the spring of 2009. 3103 Knox, 469-533-7600, [currentenergy.com](http://currentenergy.com)

**DIY** You'll feel like a seasoned beauty pro when you learn to whip up organic salt and sugar body scrub concoctions during one of the workshops at Make Shop and Studio in the Bishop Arts District of Dallas. Everything you need is right in your kitchen—sign up online for the two-hour class. 313 N. Bishop Avenue, 214-256-3061, [themakesite.com](http://themakesite.com)



**GET CARDED** Send a greeting that keeps on giving with plantable cards from Round Robin Press. Austinite Shannon Lowry has printed her signature design—plump little birds—on recycled papers embedded with seeds for growing wildflowers, basil, and chives. \$6 each at BookPeople in Austin, the Cutting Garden in Houston, and [roundrobinpress.com](http://roundrobinpress.com).

## STYLE

**BAG IT** Going green sometimes means less green in the pocket initially, but Cindy Atmar wanted to change that. After reading an article about earth-friendly designer bags that were upward of \$800, the Houston entrepreneur created Ecologie Bags, water- and dirt-resistant reusable bags that are pleasingly priced at \$3. The recyclable bags hold up to 35 pounds, last as long as two years, and come in fresh color combos such as lime green/bright blue and rich brown/baby pink. [ecologiebags.com](http://ecologiebags.com)

**HELLO, ALOE** Aloe 80's bath and body creations contain at least 80 percent certified organic aloe vera. The Denton company's bubble bath, shampoo, and lotions employ moisturizing aloe vera, shea butter, and vitamins A and E, making them perfectly gentle for everyday use. The shampoos, with oils of lemon and rosemary, are even mild enough for color-treated hair. At Whole Foods Market and [illoythedesert.com](http://illoythedesert.com)

**ROCK ON** A former aesthetician, Austin resident Carina Menzies knows the value of quality cosmetics and application. But once she became a working mom, she didn't have time to indulge in a fifteen-minute makeup session—or a \$40 foundation. Her line of makeup, Everyday Minerals, nips both issues in the bud. One sweep of the brush, and the all-natural and organic powders (foundations from \$5) make skin glow with a smooth, noncakey finish, and the neutral-colored lip glosses (\$4) are impressively creamy. [everydayminerals.com](http://everydayminerals.com)