

Healing

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Featuring: **Pet Promise**

Natural Pets

Blame it on recent news reports of contaminated pet food or just the general trend towards eco-consumerism, but Fido now has endless green options. From dog beds to pet collars—virtually every conventional pet product has an earth-friendly alternative. Buying natural and chemical-free pet food is the easiest change to make, and several brands such as By Nature Pet Food, California Natural, Castor & Pollux Organix, **Pet Promise**, or Karma Organic Pet Food are available nationwide at stores like Petco, PetSmart, Whole Foods, Wild Oats, and local pet stores. These natural pet foods and treats, are made without unnatural fillers, or rendered chicken or beef meal. Switching to a natural cat litter can also have a big environmental impact. Traditional litter, which often comes from strip mines and can be chemically-treated, is easily replaced with natural alternatives, such as Green Pet's Clean n'Comfy litter made out of biodegradable corn cob particles, PaPurr recycled paper litter, Elegant Cat flushable green litter, or Swheat Scoop's litter made from naturally processed wheat.

The new 100 percent bio-degradable plastic bags from BioBags are essential for any dog owner. Being responsible and picking up your pet's waste can also result in hundreds of plastic bags going to the landfill. Using biodegradable waste bags can have a big green impact, and requires very little change. Also, try preservative- and chemical-free grooming prod-

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green living TIPS

ucts that are gentle, such as Hartz Clean Earth, Pet Organics, or Castor & Pollux Head to Tail shampoo.

Pet playtime also gets a green makeover with toys made from recycled materials—like recycled rubber chew toys and stylish hemp accessories including dog collars, leashes, and even tags made from recycled metals. Finally, when Fido is worn out from all this attention, give your pooch a green place to rest. Try a dog bed made completely from recycled materials — like Worldwide pet beds, or Earth Dog's stylish hemp beds made in a variety of colors and designs.

—Kimberly Wilson

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