

GreenStreet LI

grown by Newsday

Green Gift Giving

It's a twist on an old motto: If you want to go green with your holiday purchases this year, then "Think globally, shop locally" at some of Long Island's eco-focused stores.

The biggest hit these days at Greentique in Port Jefferson are Notebagz, made from recycled denim and magazines that feature celebrities like Taylor Swift, Lady Gaga and the cast of Glee. Purses run \$32.99 to 49.99; wallets are \$22.99; and bookmarks are \$4.99.

Greener Country in Bohemia carries several gift items made from bamboo and hemp, materials that replenish quickly and that are grown without any chemicals or pesticides. Everyone on your list will love the bamboo bathrobe (\$60), which they can pack for a weekend getaway in their hemp travel duffel bag (\$69).

The latest addition to the clothing at Jet's Dream in Greenport is the Ramblers Way line of lightweight undergarments, made of 100% American, natural and sustainable wool that will keep you toasty without being itchy. Women's "Long Janes" go for \$78 each (top and bottom sold separately); Men's Long Johns are \$88 each.

If you're near Ridgewood in Queens, visit Vaya Bags for an assortment of handmade messenger bags (\$85 and up) made from recycled sailcloth. They also carry wallets, iPod cases and other accessories made from recycled bicycle tubes (starting at \$10). And while you may find yourself at the mall this season, try to choose "greener" gifts like all natural products rather than chemically manufactured ones—every little bit helps. Happy shopping!



Don't Get 'Greenwashed'

Since eco is in, many companies are jumping aboard the green marketing bandwagon. But labels can be deceiving; just because a product uses some combo of the words eco, earth, green, friendly, gentle or kind doesn't guarantee anything. To avoid being greenwashed, look for third-party verification from groups such as the Forest Stewardship Council, Energy Star and the U.S. Department of Agriculture/Organic. Other reputable certifying organizations are EcoLogo, Green Seal, LEED, The EPA's "Design For The Environment" (DfE) and Water Sense.

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