

Packaging

Suppliers

- ♦ Request that shippers reduce unnecessary packaging and purchase products with minimal packaging and/or buy materials in bulk
- ♦ Encourage suppliers to ship materials in reusable containers and Send milk crates and plastic buckets back to the manufacturer for reuse
- ♦ Ask suppliers to take back shipping boxes or pallets for reuse or recycling
- ♦ Look for suppliers with multiple products you need to minimize shipping waste
- ♦ Set up orders online rather than using order forms and catalogs
- ♦ If located in an office building or complex, look into ordering with other offices to reduce packaging, costs, and deliveries.

Packing Peanuts

- ♦ Request that items be packed with shipping bubbles, shredded paper, or newspaper instead
- ♦ Use foam packing peanuts, bubble wrap, and other packing materials over again
- ♦ Consult the Re-Directory for locations to donate clean, dry packing peanuts
- ♦ Purchase biodegradable foam peanuts

Reuse/Recycle

- ♦ Reuse cardboard boxes for other purposes
- ♦ Ship your own materials in reusable/reused packaging
- ♦ Offer unwanted shipping pallets to the public for reuse or recycling
- ♦ Look for recycled content in packing materials that you are buying
- ♦ Donate milk crates to the Greater Ithaca Activities Center or Traveling Books of the Finger Lakes for reuse
- ♦ Donate empty plastic pails or buckets to schools, nurseries, churches, customers or employees
- ♦ Donate reusable, but unwanted excess packaging to schools for art projects

Food Service

- ♦ Wash or rinse aluminum foil for reuse and then recycle
- ♦ Reuse potato sacks and cardboard drums for storage
- ♦ Giveaway large plastic containers for reuse
- ♦ Plastic tubs can be reused as transportable food containers
- ♦ Consult the ReDirectory to find outlets for surplus food and equipment