

Green initiatives for a greener future!

green products ...

Natural Ovens Bakery knows that a large part of our customer base is environmentally-conscious, due to the success of our Organic Plus bread line, which was launched two years ago. As you know, organic foods are not only good for the body, but also good for the earth, since the farmers raising the ingredients for our breads use techniques that preserve the integrity of the land and protect our water resources.

packed in green packaging ...

When our customers are finished with their loaf of bread, they should know that our bread bags and labels are recyclable, and the kwik loks are biodegradable. So not only is eating Natural Ovens breads good for your body, but it's also good for the planet!

We also analyzed our shipping case sizes, and by making some changes we've increased the number of units per case. This means there's less empty space in each case, which optimizes the space available on our trucks and results fewer trips, meaning less road and fuel usage.

delivered by a green fleet ...

Transportation provides us with a host of opportunities for "going green", and we're checking them all out! We've tested using bio-diesel fuels in our vehicles, and currently use a B-11 blend in all of our vehicles that do not use hybrid applications. We are testing a propane-injection system and a hydrogen diesel hybrid fuel system, both which have been proven to reduce greenhouse emissions.

Our "greenest" change so far with the largest impact for our company is using recycled vegetable oil in our trucks. One quarter of our Natural Ovens fleet has converted one of its two fuel tanks to run on leftover vegetable oil (primarily from snack food factories, fast food restaurants, and other industrial users). Diesel fuel is still used to start the engine, but then the vegetable oil fuel tank takes over. We feel good about the residual effect this has on breaking the nation's foreign oil habit and saving the landfills and storm drains from discarded vegetable oil.

We've also had our vehicle engines governed in Spring of 2008 not to exceed 62 miles per hour, and the engines are programmed to automatically shut down after five minutes of idling.

brought to you by green employees

Our employees are very planet-conscious as well. Paper is printed on both sides before it is recycled whenever possible, and a company-wide recycling program began in Summer of 2008. Some of the lighting in the bakery is set up on sensors, so that when no one is in the area, energy is saved by the lights turning off. Our employees are proud to be a part of our efforts to make this a greener place to work!