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GREEN LIVING

Consumer News

BY KARA POUND

Have a Green Halloween

Decorations, Treats and Costumes that Won't Spook the Planet

Halloween may be a once-a-year celebration, but its eco-impact can last more than a lifetime. Consider what's left behind: throwaway decorations, processed candy, plastic loot bags, one-time-use costumes and a landfill's worth of candy wrappers. Below are some of *E's* favorite ways to green your Halloween.



Non-Toxic Face Pencils

Paint it green with Nova Natural Toys + Crafts non-toxic face pencils made primarily from palm oil (\$16). The six-pencil set comes in Basic (primary and bold colors like yellow, red, black and blue) and Fairy (pearly pastels like light blue, pink, seafoam and lilac). They're easy to apply, easy to wash off and a great alternative to petroleum-based plastic or rubber masks. www.novanatural.com

Ingredients like organic grape juice and organic sunflower oil, and they're gluten-free and made in a nut-free facility. At only 90 calories per packet, they're a sweet treat for grown-ups, too. www.naturalcandystore.com



Soy Tea Light Candles

Use soy tea lights to illuminate your jack-o'-lantern and walkways. Maddison Avenue sells soy tea lights (\$1.30 each) in virtually every color imaginable. Made with pure soybean wax—a renewable resource, as opposed to petroleum-based paraffin wax—they feature lead-free wicks and are completely biodegradable. www.maddisonavenue.com



Fair Trade Trick or Treat Kit

Global Exchange's Fair Trade Store sells a Trick or Treat Kit (\$17.50)—an all-in-one way to celebrate the holiday and support fair wages and labor practices across the world. The kit includes a bag of organic dark chocolate minis (40 pieces), a stack of Halloween postcards that detail the importance of supporting Fair Trade practices, traditional Papel Picado (punched or perforated) Mexican paper party streamers, an eco-friendly mulberry paper bag from Thailand and a "Fair Trade is Boo-tiful" poster. www.globalexchangestore.org

Handmade Flute Necklaces

Magic Cabin offers Ocarina Flute Necklaces (\$11.98) painted in black-and-white skull designs and handmade in Peru. These ceramic flutes (thought to be the oldest wind instrument) produce hauntingly unique sounds, perfect for the season. Each flute comes with a 16" cord and instructions on how to play. Ages 3 and up. www.magiccabin.com



Recycled Decorations

Dress up your doorway with Cardboard Safari's recycled cardboard skull wreath (\$24). Made up of 72 individual skulls, the wreath is laser-cut from recycled cardboard with slotted construction for easy assembly (the company's non-holiday offerings include layered cardboard moose mounts and 3-D rhino puzzles). The company recycles the small amount of scrap cardboard that is produced. www.eco-artware.com



Alpaca Knit Mask and Tail Set

Oeuf, a Fair Trade and eco-friendly children's company, has partnered with indigenous Bolivian women to create Alpaca Knit Mask and Tail Sets (\$48). Through the sale of each set, the women maintain a sustainable income that in turn allows their children to attend school. The collection, which includes your choice of giraffe, fox, zebra, leopard, raccoon, tiger, alligator or dog, are made of 100% Alpaca wool (an eco-friendly fabric). www.oeufnyc.com



Reusable Loot Bags

ChicoBag offers an orange jack-o'-lantern bag and a limited-edition design from their Green Halloween contest winner (\$4.99). Green Halloween—a nonprofit initiative launched in Seattle in 2007 to promote a healthier, more eco-friendly Halloween—has since become a nationwide movement. And ChicoBag is donating 10% of sales from its Halloween bags to the EcoMom Alliance, a nonprofit empowering women to take environmental action. www.chicobag.com



Organic Gummies

Surprise trick-or-treaters with snack-size packs (9 oz.) of Surf Sweets Organic Gummy Bears, Sour Berry Bears, Jelly Beans or Sour Worms from the Natural Candy Store (\$7.49 for a 10-pack). They're made with organic sweeteners and natural ingre-

KARA POUND is a freelance writer living in Florida.

