



## Green Gifts for Clients

With the current emphasis on green living, the choices for green gifts for clients are increasing every day. If you Google *Green Gifts* you can locate some amazing items that may be just what you want. For example, [www.Eco-express.com](http://www.Eco-express.com) offers an array of themed baskets all filled with green products. They also have 60 housewarming items like a Green Home Kit for \$26. or a Rain Forest Goody Basket for \$69.95. Check [www.Homegain.com/green-real-estate](http://www.Homegain.com/green-real-estate) for more suggestions for green gift giving.

Another excellent source is [www.Ecohatchery.com](http://www.Ecohatchery.com) where they will co-brand with your information on their Eco-Starter Kits to help people who want to go green but don't know where to start. The prices range from \$50-\$97.50 and the kits have energy monitors, foam outlet covers and much more. Hint: check the contents of these kits and make up your own. Of course, use an eco-friendly tote bag as your gift wrap.

The Nature Conservancy at [www.adopt.nature.org](http://www.adopt.nature.org) will let you adopt an acre of land in your client's name and send them a kit including the Conservancy magazine. Another novel idea is to give the gift of a tree. A gift certificate to a local nursery can let the client select the tree of their choice.

A more economical tree gift can be found at the Arbor Day Foundation [www.arborday.org/shopping/gifttrees](http://www.arborday.org/shopping/gifttrees). They will send a seedling tree ready to plant to your client. Also, you can make a bulk purchase of evergreen trees for \$3. each in plastic tubes that can be recycled as bird feeders (instructions included) which would make great promotional items for Earth Day or Arbor Day.

Take a trip to Border's Books (don't forget to get a coupon from the internet with your Border's Reward card) and you can find excellent resources on saving energy like Consumer's Reports Complete Guide to Reducing Energy Costs for \$15.95. Make up your own gift bag with green cleaning products, a microfiber dust cloth, green food products and energy saving books or magazines.

You might want to give a Home Energy Audit to a new home buyer to help them develop a plan to save money and energy. An audit usually will cost about \$400.

**Linda Gray, September 2009**