

Eco-Products Learning

Welcome to the Eco-Products Learning Center!

The content in our online Learning Center explores **eight learning areas** essential to understanding who we are, what we do, and why we do it.

We've divided the content into units starting with the basics before moving into deeper detail and more advanced topics.

Each unit includes:

Study Guide

For guided notetaking and increased comprehension

Video Playlist

Watch them all at once, or break them up to fit into your schedule

Quizzes

To test your recall and record your progress

Eight Learning Areas:

Company

Products

Beginning-of-Life

End-of-Life

Certifications

Services

Legislation

Success Stories

Unit 3

In Unit 3, we expand on topics introduced in Units 1 & 2, and introduce more of our service offerings.

Unit 3 Videos:

- The Veridian™ Collection (1:28)
- Vanguard® Molded Fiber
- FSC® Certification (1:01)
- Proud to be a B Corp (2:03)
- Why Composting is Awesome (2:52)

Watch at ecoproducts.com

Guided Note-Taking

Fill out these worksheets as you watch each video to guide your note taking and highlight key takeaways.

PRODUCTS

The Veridian Collection

Eco-Products' clearly labeled, certified compostable packaging designed to reduce contamination



Sorting waste can be confusing for end users, leading to _____ in compost streams.

Contamination from _____ packaging makes it harder to create clean compost.

The states of _____ and _____ require compostable packaging to be clearly labeled and use green or brown colors.

Veridian products are certified compostable by _____.

Bioplastic products in the Veridian line are tinted _____ or _____.

Paper products are printed with graphics indicating they are _____.

Match the stakeholder with the benefit provided by Veridian:

A. Foodservice Operators

B. Customers

C. Haulers & Composters

1. Make correct decisions at collection bins

2. Comply with local regulations

3. Reduce contamination in compost loads

PRODUCTS

The Veridian Collection

The Veridian collection of packaging stands out for all the right reasons.

Too often, sorting trash confuses end users, and composters can't tell what products are truly compostable.

Contamination from look-alike packaging makes it harder to create clean compost, slowing down the process.

Colorado and Washington have enacted laws to help mitigate contamination and reduce confusion between compostable and non-compostable products. These states require compostable packaging to be clearly labeled as compostable and use green and brown colors.

That's why Eco-Products created Veridian: a full line of compostable foodservice packaging that's BPI Certified compostable and easily identified as compostable.

Bioplastic products like lids and cutlery are tinted green or beige, and paper products are printed with graphics that clearly indicate the product is certified compostable.

Veridian is useful all along the supply chain. These products help:

- Foodservice operators comply with local regulations
- Customers make the right decision at collection bins
- Haulers and composters keep contamination out of their loads.

Together, we can keep contamination out and composting moving forward.

Learn more at ecoproducts.com

PRODUCTS

Vanguard® Molded Fiber

Eco-Products' molded fiber line made without intentionally added PFAS.



Vanguard is made primarily from natural fibers such as _____ and _____.

Vanguard products are made without intentionally added _____.

PFAS are compounds used for _____ and _____ resistance.

Over time, PFAS can build up in the _____.

Vanguard products are certified compostable by _____.

Since 2022, Vanguard has helped customers comply with state requirements regarding _____ in foodservice products.

How can you identify Vanguard products without intentionally added PFAS?

PRODUCTS

Vanguard® Molded Fiber

Vanguard is Eco-Products' proprietary line of molded fiber dinnerware and containers made without intentionally added PFAS. Vanguard products are BPI certified compostable, and made primarily from natural fiber like sugarcane and bamboo. Most items in the line have also been field-tested and CMA approved for compostability.

What are PFAS? PFAS are FDA approved compounds used in food packaging for grease and water resistance. Over time, PFAS can build up in the environment. After decades of consistent use of PFAS, scientists have begun to see the negative effects of PFAS exposure in humans and animals. In response, many organizations, companies, and states have begun the work to phase out PFAS in consumer products. For instance, the Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI), updated its certification standards to prohibit intentionally added fluorinated chemicals, and we've introduced our Vanguard line.

Since 2022, we've helped customers in states requiring foodservice products to contain no intentionally added PFAS transition to Vanguard products. The best way to identify our Vanguard line with no intentionally added PFAS is to look for the Vanguard or BPI logo.

Learn more at www.ecoproducts.com/vanguard

END-OF-LIFE

Why Composting is Awesome

What can (and can't) go in compost bins, how to identify certified compostable products, and why avoiding contamination is so important.



Composting rules vary depending on:

- Federal law
- Local composter acceptance policies
- Manufacturer preference
- Retail pricing

Composters that accept packaging typically require certification by _____, _____, or both.

Look for the _____ logo to identify certified compostable products.

If you are unsure whether an item is compostable, you should _____

END-OF-LIFE

Why Composting is Awesome

What to Put in Compost Bins

Like recycling, there is variation in what should go in compost bins depending on where you are and what your local composter accepts.

A lot of composters only accept yard waste. Others take yard waste and food, but DO NOT accept compostable products. And then other composters accept all of it – yard waste, food and certified compostable packaging. For composters that do accept packaging, almost all of them require products to be certified by BPI, CMA, or both.

So how do you know if a product or package is compostable? Start by looking for the BPI logo on the product itself or the packaging it came in.

Two states, Washington and Colorado, require that compostable products feature specific labeling elements like green or brown color, tint, or striping. You'll find that many compostable products feature design elements like these but it is still important to look for the BPI logo.

What if you can't figure it out? Contamination from non-compostable products is a major issue for composters and the threat of it is enough to keep some composters from accepting even certified compostable products. If you aren't sure if an item is compostable, don't put it in the compost bin.

Benefits of Composting

Composting is the natural process of recycling organic materials, which keeps them out of landfills and creates a valuable soil amendment.

Here are a few of the benefits associated with composting yard waste, food scraps, and certified compostable packaging:

#1: Reducing Landfill Emissions: When organic materials are sent to landfills, they produce methane, a greenhouse gas that is up to 30 times more potent than carbon dioxide. Composting keeps organics, food, and certified compostable foodservice packaging out of landfills – reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

#2: Carbon Sequestration & Climate Mitigation: When applied to land, finished compost can remove carbon from the atmosphere through carbon sequestration, and serve other climate mitigation benefits such as drought and soil erosion defense.

#3: Soil Health and Regenerative Farming: Finished compost reduces the need for chemical-based fertilizers, rejuvenates soils and ecosystems, grows more nutritious food and supports a better crop yield.

Whether you are striving to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, or passionate about improving soil health, composting is one of the most effective ways to manage our organic resources.

CERTIFICATIONS

FSC® Certification

Introducing FSC certification and why it's considered the gold standard in responsible forest management.



FSC stands for _____.

The FSC label indicates products come from _____ managed forests.

FSC is considered the _____ standard in forest certification.

FSC certification helps protect _____ quality, _____, and forest-dependent communities.

List at least four Eco-Products items that may contain FSC-certified material:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

True or False:

- T / F FSC certification applies only to recycled plastic products.
- T / F FSC is a global organization.
- T / F FSC certification supports long-term forest health.

SERVICES

FSC® Certification

When you see the FSC® label, it means the product you're using comes from responsibly managed forests.

The Forest Stewardship Council is a global organization that sets standards for responsible forest management. Their mission? Protect forests for future generations.

Every year, people use tons of forest products, and FSC helps ensure those forests stay healthy and thriving. It's the gold standard in forest certification, trusted by groups like the World Wildlife Federation and the Sierra Club.

You'll find FSC-certified paper and wood in select Eco-Products hot cups, soup cups, paper lids, bags, boxes, wraps, and cutlery.

When you choose FSC, you're choosing to protect water quality, wildlife, and communities who depend on forests.

Learn more at ecoproducts.com

CERTIFICATIONS

What it Means to Be a B Corp

We break down Eco-Products' B Corp journey and what it means to use business as a force for good.



Eco-Products has been a Certified B Corporation since _____.

The B Corp movement aims to balance _____ and _____.

B Corp certification requires third-party verification of social and environmental _____, _____, and _____.

Eco-Products primarily manufactures packaging made from _____, post-consumer _____, or reusable materials.

Being a B Corp is described not just as a certification, but as a _____.

List four stakeholder groups mentioned in the video:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

CERTIFICATIONS

What it Means to Be a B Corp

At Eco-Products, responsibility shapes our decisions, our products, and our partnerships. As a Certified B Corporation since 2016, we're part of a global movement using business as a force for good.

The B Corp movement was created to shift our economy to one that balances profit and purpose and prioritizes positive impacts for all stakeholders - including workers, communities, customers, and our planet.

Being a B Corp means we are third-party-certified to meet rigorous standards of social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency. But for us, it's more than a certification; it's a mindset. As part of the broader Novolex foodservice packaging portfolio, Eco-Products is paving the way for responsibility-focused foodservice packaging. We work to improve the environmental impacts of foodservice packaging and primarily make foodservice packaging with renewable, post-consumer recycled, or reusable materials. We

care deeply about what happens to packaging after use. We are obsessed with enhancing composting, recycling, and reuse infrastructure, and are dedicated to shifting how the world manages its resources.

We believe in giving back to our communities, empowering our employees, engaging with our value chain, and partnering with organizations that share our vision for a more inclusive and regenerative future.

Being a B Corp means we're always asking: How can we do better for people, business, and the planet? This continuous improvement mindset challenges us to consider the social and environmental needs of our changing world.

Learn more about our B Corp certification and gain access to our transparent B Impact Assessment at ecoproducts.com/b-corp-certification

Continuing Education

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