

## Analyzing Green Practices at RETAIL STORES

In many stores across the US, “going green” is already on the agenda. More and more consumers are starting to ask questions about the sustainability of the products they buy. The growth in popularity of organic foods, recycled packaging, and reusable bags is evidence of this shift! Your retail store has the opportunity to take advantage of this growing green movement, and recognize new and innovative ideas.



## Environmental business practices to look for

You may be able to recognize new ideas and techniques that could improve the sustainability of your restaurant's operations. Review the list below and then ask: **Are you able to implement any of these steps? Why or why not? If your employer is already doing some of the following, when did the begin doing so and why?**

- Offers reusable bags at check-out, or offer a discount for shoppers that bring their own bags
- Offers certified organic produce, dairy products, and meat
- Allows shoppers to purchase purified water in reusable jugs, rather than disposable jugs
- Recycles or reuse packaging
- Offers recycling for store generated waste (paper, plastic, glass, etc.)
- Uses renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power
- Uses energy saving lighting and appliances throughout the store
- Works with suppliers to ensure products are packaged in recycled or minimally necessary materials
- Provides conservation tips to costumers

Tell us what you found out through an essay, art project or photos at: [greenheartwork@ cci-exchange.org](mailto:greenheartwork@cci-exchange.org)