Reusable Shop Towels: Green Cause Delivers Green Effects



Reusables are greener than disposables ...

Your Green Cause: You purchase green supplies engineered and manufactured with high efficiency. Then you use them conservatively



Saving energy



Improving air quality



Reducing waste

Improving your bottom line

Your Green Effects: Using these supplies enhances profitability because they are inherently more efficient (less expensive) and you use only what you need to get your work done, eliminating waste



Lowers overall costs



Decreases disposal



Delivers better value

Ask your local textile services operator about regular pickup and delivery to optimize your inventory and storage



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Green Cause #1: **Saving Energy**

62% less primary energy demand Reusable shop towels need

dramatically fewer fossil (non-renewable) resources

81% less crude oil In addition energy, crude oil is used for plastics, synthetic materials and soap/chemical products. Eliminating disposable industrial wipers would meet those annual product needs for at least 24,000 people

17% less coal

70 Enough to power at least 450 homes with such complete substitution of reusables

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0/ less natural gas

4% Enough to heat at least 750 homes or power 460

Green Effect #1: **Decreasing Overall Costs**

B3% less \$ A single reusable can handle 10 light-soil wiping tasks before washing it, providing enormous savings compared with using one disposable (total of 10) for each such task.

CO/ less \$

bb% For five (heavy soil) tasks that one reusable handles

O/ less \$ **For three tasks (heavier) that**

one reusable handles

CO/ less \$ **J**/**O** For two tasks (heaviest) that one reusable handles

Green Cause #2: **Improving Air Quality**

59% less smog Less discharges that foster nitrogen oxides under the influence of UV light to produce low-level smog

ONO/ less carbon monoxide **0170** Every reusable substituted for

a disposable saves 16 cigarettes' worth of carbon monoxide

70/ less carbon dioxide

/ Substituting reusable shop towels for 10 disposables saves the equivalent of 1 mile's worth of carbon dioxide from an auto tailpipe

Green Effect #2: **Controlling Disposal** Expenses

50 savings in dumpster U costs per disposable roll

Reusables free disposal space; total savings depends on size, packing efficiency of dumpster, disposal rate

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\$2.20 savings in custodian labor per roll

Based on wage of \$12 per hour

🛯 🗖 savings in plastic bags **†U** oer roll

Based on 8 bags per cubic yard of waste, \$.20 per bag

Green Cause #3: **Reducing Waste**

CO/ less packaging waste

b/0 For a wiping task that you'd need one disposable to complete, if you use a reusable shop towel that you received in a tied bundle instead, this lack of packaging limits waste disposal

COO/ less total solid waste **by%** For a task you'd need three

disposables for, substituting a reusable saves not only packaging but all the additional waste associated with the manufacturing and use of the disposables

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90/ less total solid waste **DZ**⁷0 For a task you'd need two disposables for, substituting a reusable saves almost as much towel waste

Green Effect #3: **Delivering Better Value**

Avoid 5%–10% waste factor

Disposables tend to be used for purposes other than intended, subjecting them to theft and abuse. Paper product manufacturers and distributors acknowledge this in marketing

Improve safety

Paper towels soiled with potentially flammable or otherwise harmful fluids can remain on worksites longer than reusable towels picked up each week by a launderer

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Save time

Worker productivity decreases due to disposables' inferior absorbency and the need to use more than one for a wiping task



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