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GREEN SURPRISES COME IN SMALL PACKAGES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Online retailer Eco-Artware.com features unusual gifts that are compact, stylish and earth-friendly, in all price ranges and for every occasion.

NOVEMBER 15, 2005 - WASHINGTON, D.C. The holiday season is the perfect time to remember those who have meant so much to us throughout the year. And sometimes, a small, unexpected gift that brings a smile to the recipient's face is the perfect expression of holiday cheer.

"We offer a wide range of little gifts, ones that don't take much to ship or carry, that are great for hostess-thank-yous or coworker exchanges," said Reena Kazmann, founder and director of Eco-Artware.com (www.eco-artware.com), an online retailer featuring well-made products from recycled, reused and natural materials. Eco-artware.com now represents 25 artists, and as demand for their handiwork grows, more waste is diverted from landfills.

Eco-Artware's distinctive and eco-friendly little stocking stuffers include:

Ugandan Paper Bead Jewelry A coordinated necklace and bracelet set made from paper beads hand crafted from recycled magazine pages, strung alternating with tiny round glass beads. The triple-strand necklace is approximately 17"-18" long (\$20); matching bracelet approximately 7.5" long (\$15). Both secure with a sturdy plastic clasp. Created by women living with HIV/AIDS or displaced by civil war in Northern Uganda, income derived from the sale of their jewelry provides income to improve their lives.



Traffic Sign Brooches These unique boldly patterned pins are handmade from retired aluminum traffic signs. Metalsmith Boris Bally shapes and finishes scraps left over from his larger works into one-of-kind accessories in a variety of shapes and colors to complement any outfit (\$22).



Gumball Bracelets This whimsical charm bracelet is a blast from the past, with one incredibly detailed sterling-silver charm of a gumball machine surrounded by nine vintage plastic and metal charms and premiums-many from 1950s Cracker Jack boxes-on a sterling silver double-link chain. Charms range from cartoon animals to sports equipment, from hearts to household objects, from classic advertising characters to musical instruments, just like those long-ago prizes-for-a-penny. The sterling silver double-link bracelet is adjustable up to 8" (\$65).



Circuit Board Business Card Cases and Money Clips .Sleek cases with colorful circuit board tops hold up to 25 cards and easily fit into a pocket or purse; the money clip is made from a circuit board mounted on a stainless steel base (\$12). These colorful accessories are made from manufacturers' rejects by Jay Silver who keeps more than 1,000 pounds of motherboards from the landfill, annually.



Cuff links A selection of cuff links made from vintage typewriter keys, obsolete subway and trolley tokens, out-of-date coins, unusable circuit boards are fashioned into stylish cuff links. The perfect accessory or gift to enhance formal and business casual attire (\$38-\$95).



Fused glass refrigerator magnets Small, irregularly shaped bits of stained glass remnants are melted then cooled into a joyous spot of color to enliven our mundane "buy milk" refrigerator notes. Each magnet is between 1 and 2 inches across and holds up to five sheets of paper (\$6).



Mix-and-Match Notecards and Portfolio This reusable, linen-covered folio is filled with eight flat notecards and envelopes in two colors each, containing more than 30 percent material recycled from post-consumer waste. A delightful little gift for your favorite pen pal, once the cards have been sent, the attractive folio is just the right size to hold postcards, stamps, coupons, shopping lists and pads to keep scores at bridge games. Available in two different color combinations: grey and white cards with coordinating black and white envelopes, and red and orange cards with dark and light coral envelopes, (\$16).



ABOUT ECO-ARTWARE.COM - A web-based gallery of stylish, well-made products enabling us to live well, while living lightly on the earth. Reena Kazmann founded the company in 1999. "I recycled and reused before and after it became chic," she said. The complete catalog can be seen at www.eco-artware.com.



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