

# ON ALL FRONTS

## EARTH DAY, 4/22



Jennifer always thought of Pembroke Welsh Corgis as happy dogs—an assumption that proved true when she got her own. Cricket (with Jennifer, above) is the unofficial mascot of *IdealBite.com*, and often helps Jennifer with product testing for the site. Jennifer's other pets (12 in total!) include chickens, two cats, and a horse.

## How Green Is Your Dog?

With Earth Day almost upon us, the *GAZETTE* asked Jennifer Boulden, co-founder of the eco-living web site, *IdealBite.com*, for her advice on how fanciers can go green.

"The mantra of Ideal Bite is to start small," she says. "You realize how much the small stuff adds up. You will see yourself incorporating more and more, and you'll feel good about it."

### QUICK AND EASY TIPS

**Kick the bottled water habit:** "Bottled water creates so much garbage; it's crushing our environment," says Jennifer. (Filter tap water if you don't like the taste.) A cheap and easy first step.



**Jennifer says:** Carry enough water for you and your dog with **IdealBite.com's Biter Bottle**, \$20 plus shipping.

**We like:** **Ruff Wear's Trail Runner Dog Bowl**, from \$11.95 (24 fluid ounces), [www.ruffwear.com](http://www.ruffwear.com). The leak-proof, fold-up nylon design allows for easy cleaning, storing, and continual use.

**Purchase a hemp collar:** Hemp can grow without the use of herbicides, fungicides, and pesticides, making it a safe product for your pet and better for the environment. Hemp products also support sustainable farming.



**Jennifer likes:** **Earth Dog collars**, \$20–25, [www.earthdog.com](http://www.earthdog.com). Available in a range of designs and colors, these collars soften as the dogs wear them, and are constructed from 100 percent hemp canvas.

**Travel green:** Whether you are traveling to a show or just for pleasure, you can reap the benefits from products made from recycled materials, which help reduce waste.



**Jennifer likes:** **Bucky Fuzzy Wuzzy Travel Pillow**, \$24.95, [www.bucky.com](http://www.bucky.com). Filled with natural grains, this travel pillow will keep the crick out of your neck on those long car rides. It's also machine-washable and comes with a "snap and go" clip that securely snaps onto your luggage.

**Cut down on your paper waste:** Each day, 3.3 million people consult MapQuest. If each person prints a set of directions, they'll use 13,200 reams of paper.



**Jennifer says:** Put those mobile devices to good use. Text **GOOGLE** (466453) with your starting address, then "to," and then your destination. Your directions arrive free via text message. If your cell phone is equipped for e-mail, you can also e-mail yourself directions to consult on the go.

**Hit the car wash:** Traveling from show to show can take a toll on your vehicle. Spend a little extra cash to get it professionally cleaned. Compared to a home wash, professional car washes can save up to 130 gallons of water.



**Jennifer says:** If you wash your car at home, do your bit for the environment by reducing the amount of chemicals you put into the water. Use eco-friendly cleaners like **Eco-Touch's Waterless Car Wash Starter Kit**, \$19.99, [www.ecotouch.net](http://www.ecotouch.net).

—Katie Schlientz



### AKC GOES GREEN

If your dog loves plush toys but you want to help the environment, the **AKC Green Planet Collection** features classic creatures—including squirrels, rabbits, and porcupines—made out of recycled polyester stuffing and 80 percent recycled packaging. The collection also includes premium treats, toys, and accessories. Available at Petco, PetSmart, and the AKC Store, from \$4.99. ♦