

Going Green With Your Cats

Litter-Robot maker launches a giveaway contest, offers environmental tips.

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Using brushes, collars and leashes made from recycled materials will help reduce your cat's environmental "paw print." Automated Pet Care Products, the company behind the Litter-Robot, announced it will give away a new ECO Unit Litter-Robot and Litter-Robot Ramp to encourage pet owners to consider how they can lessen their cat's environmental "paw print," the company said.

To enter, cat owners must go to the company's website and tell how they and their pet are trying to reduce their environmental impact. Entries must be received by June 1 and the winner will be chosen at random June 8 and announced on the Litter-Robot Blog.

Brad Baxter, president of Automated Pet Care Products, said, "It is important that we purchase products that last longer to achieve a higher level of energy and materials savings."

The company offers the following tips for "going green" with a cat: Use biodegradable pet-waste bags that are made of renewable, sustainable origin. Choose collars and leashes made of organic cotton, 100 percent recycled polyester or hemp. Use brushes made of recycled rubber and packaging. Select natural stain, odor and shampoo products. Choose certified organic catnip. Buy organic cat treats. Repurpose household items for cat toys (cardboard boxes, paper and paper shopping bags). Keep cats indoors or walk them on a leash. Buy cat beds that are made by environmentally aware companies. Choose green litter-disposal systems or switch to natural cat litter. Recycle a pet — adopt a cat from the local animal shelter. Have your cat spayed or neutered.