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Co-op Group Food Retail: Fact File

Virtually all Co-op's electricity is sourced from wind and water power

Co-op are one of the largest purchasers of wind and water power in the world

Co-op were the first retailer in the UK to power all our outlets on wind and water power

Co-op's fresh beef, pork, duck and whole chicken meat is to be sourced from the UK

Co-op have developed a market-leading Pesticides Policy

This seeks to reduce the use of pesticides in all Co-op brands of fresh and frozen produce.

All of Co-op brand shell eggs are free range

Free range eggs are those produced by chickens allowed to roam freely outdoors and at densities of less than 1,000 birds per hectare.

All Co-op head office paper is turned into our own-brand toilet paper in our shops

Co-op brand quilted bathroom tissue displays the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) product label, allowing customers to recognise a product that supports the growth of responsible forest management worldwide. The FSC set international standards for responsible forest management, hence safeguarding the natural heritage of the forest.

Co-op introduced Britain's first degradable plastic carrier bag

Co-op sliced bread bags are degradable

Conventional plastic packaging takes over 100 years to break down. When bags are produced, an additive system is introduced that speeds up the natural process of breaking down, and greatly accelerates disintegration in

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landfill. From the date of manufacture, the plastic will start to degrade in approx. 18 months time. We use over 400 million carrier bags and some 37 million sliced bread bags per year

Co-op recycled over 29,500 tonnes of waste cardboard and polythene packaging in 2005

Every year, over six tonnes of waste is generated for every person in the UK, the equivalent weight of a fully-grown male elephant