

Happy Valentine's Day! Let's Celebrate the Green Way!

Valentine's Day is tomorrow - have you planned something special for a loved one or yourself yet? Whether you already have the perfect activity or the perfect gift or not, read on to consider some ways you can love the Earth while celebrating this holiday of love.

1. Cards - When putting your feelings into words, it's nice to use pen and paper. Instead of purchasing a new card, take the time to make a card at home or writing a love letter instead. If handwritten isn't your style, consider expressing your affections through song or instrument.



2. Chocolate - If your lover has their heart set on chocolate, treat them to fair trade chocolate wrapped in paper. The paper can be recycled, and fair trade chocolate is often organic and comes in unique flavorings as well. Also, fair trade chocolate is typically grown in areas where the rainforest was not clear cut for cocoa production.

3. Mealtime - There are so many Earth-loving choices you can make when deciding how to share a meal with your loved one. If you prefer to eat out, choose a local restaurant to support your local economy. Look for a restaurant or dishes at a restaurant that include local foods that are in season like mushrooms, horseradish, and sprouts. If you're more of a homebody, cooking at home is an easy way to purchase locally grown foods and make them into a delicious meal.



4. Flowers - Flowers are a staple of Valentine's Day, and whether you're gifting them to yourself or a loved one, there are some Earth-friendly ways to do so. Roses are classic, February roses are grown in California or the Southern Hemisphere. This means that they are transported in refrigerated airplanes and trucks, which uses up a lot of energy for one week's worth of enjoyment. Potted plants that will stay indoors (keep those invasive species out of the flower garden!) are a great alternative. Succulents are great because the leaves can be cut to grow new plants that can be gifted to other people!