

# Rabbits – the Green Pet

Reduce Your Carbon Paw Print  
with a pet rabbit.



Domesticated rabbits are naturally green even though they come in many colors and 45 different breeds. In fact, rabbits create less greenhouse gases than cats or dogs\*.

## Why rabbits are a natural choice:

### Rabbits Love Local

Rabbits create less food miles (distance between production and consumption). A domesticated rabbit will eat garden vegetables and even dandelion leaves. Hay is the mainstay of a healthy rabbit diet and is locally grown in most states. These buck toothed bunnies also enjoy eating parts of vegetables humans don't want to consume like carrot tops, radish tops and beet tops – greens.

### Litter Bunanza

Rabbit waste is prized by most gardeners and can be used in its dry form or made into an organic tea as a natural fertilizer.

House rabbits can be litter box trained and a good litter box set-up consists of timothy hay in a newspaper lined cat litter box. Empty the litter box into your compost pile with plenty to spare for gardening neighbors. Recycled newspaper litters are also a safe litter for bunnies and to add to a compost bin. Be sure to neuter or spay a pet rabbit so you don't end up with a real poopalooza.

### Vegetarian Pet

Cattle are major emitters of greenhouse gases and a source of protein in pet foods. Since rabbits are grass grazing animals like cows, they don't contribute to the high carbon creating perils of producing meat based pet foods.

### Recycled Toys

Rabbits enjoy simple toys made out of cardboard items like the inner core of a paper towel roll by tossing and chewing on them. They also love tearing into old phone books, too, making even more fertilizer.

### Small Paw Print

Rabbits don't need a big backyard and are excellent house pets even for apartment dwellers.

### Bunny Bonuses

Rabbits don't bark or meow and that means less noise pollution. Plus, they have a unique soft purr by gently grinding their teeth and enjoy being petted on their foreheads. They are entertaining house pets.

Hop by your local humane society to adopt a bunny.

\* The carbon-trading company Easy Being Green estimates an average cat causes almost half a ton of greenhouse gas emissions per year, and a dog produces 1.75 tons. Sidney Morning Herald, 11-25-07, Eco-friendly Pets by Lucy Treloar