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Eugene company produces green lunch boxes

By Eric Mortenson, The Oregonian
June 05, 2009, 11:28AM

The venerable school lunch lady may be in trouble.

A Eugene mom, tired of the waste and tedious nature of packing lunches for her kids, has developed a lunchbox that she says is smart, colorful, environmentally friendly, durable and easy to clean.

"Lunchsense" lunchboxes are waterproof, easy to open and quick to clean, according to the company. Each lunchbox features a set of plastic containers that fit neatly together, and the lunchbox itself doubles as a fold-out placemat. The containers are dishwasher-safe and the lunchbox cleans up easily in the washing machine.

The lunchboxes do away with the need for plastic sandwich bags, and because the containers seal tight, it's easy to transport leftovers back home. Each lunchbox comes with an ice pack, and all three versions are BPA-free, lead-free, phthalate-free and vinyl-free.

The boxes come in three sizes and eight colors.

The idea for Lunchsense was born in 2006 when Nancy Owen Myers started looking for a more efficient means of packing her children's lunches. Like many parents, she was frustrated by the collection of mismatched plastic containers and lids that had piled up in her kitchen.

"I just knew there had to be a better way," she said. "After some trial and error, Lunchsense came into being.

"Now all I have to think about is the food," she said. "I don't have to worry about the containers, the box or the waste I might generate."

-- Eric Mortenson; ericmortenson@news.oregonian.com

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Posted by **saxxybone**
June 05, 2009, 3:16PM

These lunchboxes are made out of plastic? Since when is plastic "green"?

"Green" is the trendy buzzword of the day. Just like "Eco", "Organic", "Buy Local".....

To me, it's just one big marketing gimmick.

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Posted by **tdcowboy**
June 05, 2009, 11:50PM

May be they meant, you have to pay with "green" as in dollars. Or 8 colors of green. Probably are 'Made in China.'

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Posted by **dand1987**
June 06, 2009, 12:19AM

plastic is used because it is reuseable product. that's a little less trash in the landfill. i've always recommended a compost heap if anyone is going to go green.

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Posted by **ric342**
June 06, 2009, 7:06AM

The lunch boxes are "green" because you don't have to put the sandwiches, and etcetera in plastic bags. They must have compartments to put different foods in. Sounds like a good idea...

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