

## REDUCE

# Glossary

**BLISTER PACKS:** non-recyclable, plastic container often moulded to fit a product with a foil or paper backing.

**BIOMASS:** energy from wood, crop residues, dung or plants. Canada generates 8% of its total energy from biomass.

**ENVIRO PACK:** a refill, that is smaller and uses less resources to produce, for an item which is sold in a reusable container.

**FOSSIL FUELS:** fuels from once living matter; for example, coal, petroleum, or natural gas.

**GREEN CONSUMERISM:** purchasing of products which do not:

- endanger the health of the consumer or others
- cause environmental damage
- cause unnecessary waste through excess packaging or obsolescence
- harm animals or have undergone animal testing.

**HYDROLOGIC CYCLE:** the endless circulation of water from the atmosphere to the Earth and its return to the atmosphere through condensation, precipitation, evaporation and transpiration.

**LUMENS:** unit of light measurement equal to one candlepower.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** timber, water, minerals, fossil fuels and any other naturally occurring resources that can be used by humans. Because these materials are either fixed in quantity or require a long period of time to regenerate it is critical that they are carefully harvested and nurtured.

**NONRENEWABLE RESOURCES:** not capable of being naturally restored or replenished.

**PLANNED OBSOLESCENCE:** the practice of producing goods that have a very short life, so that more goods will have to be purchased and produced; the process perpetuates consumption.

**RENEWABLE RESOURCES:** capable of being naturally restored or replenished.