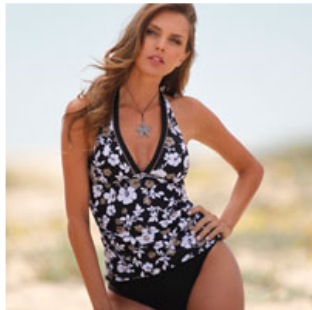


Good Housekeeping

This Figure-Flattering Swimsuit is Good for the Environment Too

June 18, 2011 at 1:30:00 by [Kathleen Huddy](#) | [0 Comments](#)



We all like to do whatever we can to help the environment but if a so-called "green" product, whether it's household cleaner, toilet paper, or a T-shirt doesn't perform as well as the traditional version, then forget it. One item of clothing we gals definitely don't want to compromise on is a bathing suit. And as most are primarily made of synthetic fibers derived from petroleum, swimsuits are not particularly environmentally friendly.

But there's good news! The company that makes Miracle Suits has just introduced a new line called [Eco Swim by AquaGreen](#) that's good for your figure *and* better for the

environment. It's one of the only swimwear collections on the market that's taking steps to lower its impact on the planet. The base fabric ([Repreve](#) Nylon) the linings, the trim components (grommets, zippers, snaps, etc.), and even the packaging and hangtags are all made from recycled materials. For the bra cups, the company uses [Eco Cell foam](#), a biodegradable substance derived from plant oils and recycled materials. In the printing and dyeing process, the company uses Oeko-Tex-approved standards which mandate that water usage be minimized and only lower impact dyes be used. These standards also limit the concentrations of many toxic chemicals used in textile manufacture, from heavy metals to formaldehyde.

OK, so I've sold you on why the swimsuits are better for the environment but what you really want to know is how they will fit, wear, and wash. Well, we love the fit — thanks to a high percentage of spandex in the material for those of us who need support. In our lab tests, which include stretching, colorfastness in seawater and chlorinated pool water, and washing and drying, we found they performed just as well traditional bathing suits. So if you're concerned about the planet and need a new suit, hit the stores and pick up an EcoSwim!

Now that you've got a great new bathing suit, don't forget about sun protection. See Mary McConnell's blog post on the [new changes on sunscreen labeling](#) to help you decode the new manufacturer promises.

Be sure to read about the [Green Good Housekeeping Seal](#) which is intended to help you make smart choices when you're out shopping.