

Preparing for Life and Career © 2013
Chapter 7: Being a Responsible Consumer—Glossary

advertisement. A paid public announcement about goods, services, or ideas for sale.

bait and switch. When advertisers promote a product at a low price to get your attention, but then try to persuade you to buy a more expensive item.

climate change. Any significant change in measures—such as temperatures, precipitation, and wind—of the Earth’s climate lasting for an extended period of time.

comparison shopping. Looking at competing brands and models of a product in several stores to compare quality, features, and prices before buying.

composting. The natural breakdown of organic, or *biodegradable*, material.

conserve. To use carefully in order to prevent loss or waste of resources.

consumer. A person who buys or uses goods and services.

E-commerce. Shopping online.

ecosystem. All of the living and nonliving things existing in a particular environment.

endorse. To publicly express support or approval.

exchange. To substitute one item for another.

fossil fuels. Resources formed by the decomposition of animals many millions of years ago and contain large amounts of carbon. They include coal, petroleum (oil), and natural gas.

impulse buying. An unplanned or spur-of-the-moment purchase, which often leads people to buy items they do not really need.

landfills. Places where trash is compacted and buried underground.

mass transit. System that is used for moving large numbers of people on buses, trains, or subways.

natural resources. Materials found in nature and shared by everyone.

nonrenewable resources. Natural resources that have formed very slowly and are limited in supply, such as minerals and fossil fuels.

photosynthesis. How plants turn carbon dioxide into oxygen.

recycled. Materials that are reprocessed resources and are reused in a different form.

redress. To correct something that is wrong.

refund. Repayment of a product’s purchase price.

renewable resources. Natural resources that simply exist or rebuild themselves fairly quickly after use, such as sunlight and fast-growing plants.

T-commerce. Shopping through television.

warranty. A written statement provided by a manufacturer that guarantees a product is in good condition.