



(Maquiladora Dignidad y Justicia, Piedras Negras, Mexico)

The MSA Peace and Justice Commission's Fair Tees program makes ethical purchasing easier by presenting several labor- and environmentally-friendly apparel alternatives. Support worker-owned cooperatives and environmental sustainability when ordering t-shirts and other apparel items for your student organization.

Get in Touch

email:
fair.tees@umich.edu

website:
www.fairtees.org

facebook:
search for the group "FairTees"

meet:
Wednesdays at 8:30pm
in MSA conference rooms, the Union

a collaboration of:



MICHIGAN STUDENT ASSEMBLY
peace and justice commission



Connecting student groups with organic and fair trade t-shirt producers



(Women's Sewing Cooperative, Nueva Vida, Nicaragua)

5 reasons to buy organic

- 1. You avoid contact with synthetic chemical surface treatments.** For example, a switch to an organic mattress and organic bedding will instantly reduce your exposure by about one third – or whatever proportion of the day you spend in bed. One of the most common fire retardants used on mattresses – boric acid – is also used to kill rats!
- 2. You support ethical and safe working practices.** Farmers working on organic farms are exposed to fewer chemicals. Each year, an estimated 60 million pounds of organophosphate pesticides are applied to U.S. agricultural crops and an additional 17 million pounds are used per year for non-agricultural uses, such as in household pest control products and lawn and garden sprays.
- 3. You reduce the allergens present in the environment.** By choosing chemical-free, organic fabrics, you help to reduce the background level of potentially allergenic chemical compounds. A recent US National Academy of Sciences study suggested that one in four developmental and behavioral problems in children may be linked to genetic and environmental factors, including exposure to lead, mercury and organophosphate pesticides.
- 4. You support biodiversity.** Organic farming aids biodiversity at every level of the food chain, by using fewer pesticides and fertilizers and by adopting wildlife-friendly habitat management techniques.
- 5. You save energy.** Conventional farming is a huge consumer of non-renewable fossil fuels. Organic farms tend to use less energy, instead focusing on careful ecological management and natural balances to solve pest problems.

source: www.greenfibres.com

For more information, visit www.fairtees.org
or email fair.tees@umich.edu

Fair Tees promotes many suppliers, all profiled on our website. Here is one example of a company profile:

North Country Fair Trade

who:

An apparel distributor who works with Maquiladora Dignidad y Justicia, (a cooperative in Mexico), and Nueva Vida (in Nicaragua); www.ethicalgoods.org

price:

\$6 per shirt to start, possible quantity discounts

turnaround:

Less than a month shipping time

organic:

Available for slightly more cost than non-organic cotton

colors:

-Non-organic shirts available in: white, black, royal blue, and forest green and fitted non-organic styles available in: white, black, and navy blue
-Organic shirts available in: natural, black, and royal blue and fitted organic styles available in natural

screen-printing:

Screen-printing should be arranged with a local printer

variety:

Limited supply of Nueva Vida apparel, and sweatshirts and tote bags from Maquiladora Dignidad y Justicia

Other suppliers featured include:

- www.ethiXventures.com
- www.greenlabel.com
- www.haenow.com
- www.tsdesigns.com
- www.sosfromtexas.com
- www.metowestyle.com
- www.organicclothes.com

