



## Is Down Eco-Friendly?

### How Green is Down?

IDFB is evaluating the environmental impact of down and feathers. Some initial findings are listed below:

- **Carbon Footprint** - Down and feathers have the lowest carbon footprint of any other fill material, both natural and synthetic.
- **Biodegradable** – Along with the cotton cover, the entire down comforter is quickly biodegradable.
- **Conserve Resources** – Down and feathers are by-products of the food industry. The material would otherwise go to landfills.
- **Energy Savings** – A good down comforter allows you to lower the thermostat at night while you sleep, saving energy and money.
- **Lightweight** – Down is nearly as light as air. It is the lightest, most efficient insulation.
- **Natural** – Down and feathers are natural materials from geese and ducks.
- **Renewable** - Unlike most synthetics which are made from non-renewable oil, down and feathers are renewable resources.
- **Safe** – Modern sterilization processes make down clean and safe from all harmful dust and bacteria. Downproof fabrics make down products more resistant to dust mite problems than some synthetic products.
- **Warm** – Warmth ratings comparing down to other filling materials show that down is superior to all other fillings in insulation per gram of material.

Please contact IDFL if you have other data on these topics. IDFL is collecting information to publish as a service to the industry and will share it with IDFB and other interested parties.

## Outdoor Retailer Show

### Salt Lake City, Utah 2-6 August 2010

IDFL is pleased to invite any visitors attending the 2010 Summer OR Show in Salt Lake City to an IDFL mini seminar. The short seminars and lab tours will be held Monday through Thursday, 2-6 August, at the IDFL laboratory which is located 10 minutes from the convention center.

#### The seminar will cover the following topics:

- Down and Feather Testing
- Current Down and Feather Quality Issues
- Fill Power Evaluation
- Synthetic Fill Product Evaluation
- Fabric Testing
- On-site product inspection and sample collection by IDFL China
- Other services in Europe and Asia

[Click here to register for a seminar.](#)

