

HOME FRONT NOW!



GREENING THE SCENE

The hopping eco-scene is helping Chicago live up to its motto, *Urbis in Horto*, or "City in a Garden." Welcome three new businesses to the green scene.

GREEN HOME CHICAGO This Fulton Market design studio carries everything you need to remodel a room, or your

home, in materials as sustainable as they are rich and sophisticated. Find reclaimed timber, fume-free paints, recycled fabrics and super-chic accessories. Owner Karen Kalmek believes in helping clients create a beautiful environment that is good for them, and the planet. She'll help with LEED certification, and each product's tag explains its green pedigree with a 10-point classification scale. 213 N. Morgan St., Suite 1D, 312.432.9400, www.gbcdesigncenter.com.



GREENHEART Show your big, green heart with an African artisanal bowl, or some organic fair trade chocolate and coffee. The Center for Cultural Exchange recently opened a boutique that brings the work of international craftspeople to Chicago, and returns the profits to those artists, helping create wealth in some of the poorest parts of the world. Find stoneware bowls, baskets made of raffia or recycled paper, and messenger bags and cheery umbrellas made of reused plastic food wraps. 745 N. LaSalle Dr., 312.264.1625, www.greenheartshop.org.

GREEN EXCHANGE In the huge brick loft spaces of the former Cooper Lighting factory near Logan Square, the country's largest sustainable business community is being developed. Opening this fall, the building will have a 9,000-square-foot sky garden, plus a green roof, an eco-café, green biz offices, and retail like organic pet stores, sustainable clothing boutiques and an eco-salon. 2545 W. Diversey Ave., 312.275.3102, www.greenexchange.com. —Gretchen Wabl



BOUTIQUE-CHIC: p.45 is re-designed digs.

THE A TEAM

After a three-week renovation hiatus, revered boutique p.45 re-opened as a space transformed. Gone is the signature rubber flooring, giving way to pewter-stain sugar maple and a reconfigured layout that makes the space look twice as big. An authentic arbiter of style (remember, p.45 was a Bucktown pioneer), owner Tricia Tunstall put together the ultimate design collab. With Michael Koehler leading the design-build charge, his vision was complemented by interior designer Jordana Joseph and fashion designer Shane Gabier, who designed the dressing room curtains—beautiful swaths of color-block fabric that hang like a Mondrian art installation. Against a backdrop of eco-friendly grass wallpaper, Koehler's extra-long, über-sleek cash wrap—so bright and white it nearly glows—is a showstopper in its simplicity and form. "We wanted to let the personality of the clothes come through," says Tunstall. The clothes definitely pop, but design this good is impossible to ignore. 1642 N. Damen Ave., 773.862.4523.



ECO-FABULOUS! Goodies at the new Green Heart Chicago.



SLEEPING IN: The mattresses come to you.

CURB APPEAL

Gingerly, you sit down on the bed, looking at the stranger before you. Trying to forget he's there, you lie down and close your eyes, shutting out the florescent lights, crowd, balloons and streamers. Any self-respecting sleep zealot understands the beauty of Sleep

Squad, which sends their by-appointment mobile mattress showroom to your home-sweet-curb, playing sleep ditties like "Dream a Little Dream" for your entire neighborhood to appreciate. They bring three pre-selected mattresses—including brands like Tempur-Pedic and Beautyrest—in the 24-foot trailer, tricked out like a luxe bedroom with a pre-loaded iPod and a slew of pillows for sale. The truck driver-cum-sleep-expert sets the thermostat, before leaving you alone to test drive each mattress in sweet privacy. 888.767.7533, www.sleepsquad.com. —GW

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