Costco,

999 Lake Drive

Issaquah, WA 98027

January 23, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I commend you for using phenol-free cash register receipt paper.  Are you also considering giving customers a digital option?  It would save you money and benefit the environment.

CVS reports that its digital program since 2019 has resulted in saving [49 million yards](https://cvshealth.com/sites/default/files/2019-csr-report.pdf) of receipt paper, which Green America estimates is more than enough paper to circle the globe.  The U.S. used 280,000 metric tons of thermal paper for receipts in 2019, but this has dipped to an estimated 252,000 tons in 2020. The decline could become permanent if consumers continue increased shopping from home and declining paper receipts at the register post-COVID.

Still, Green America estimates that in 2020, U.S. receipt consumption will use over three million trees and nearly nine billion gallons of water and cost $282 million.   Receipt production requires the energy equivalent to operating nine million refrigerators a year and generates 297 million pounds of solid waste.   Receipt production generates the greenhouse gas emission equivalent to over 400,000 cars on the road each year.

Sincerely,