

advertisement | your ad here

TURNING EHTIDE APRIL 14-16  
NEW IDEAS.  
NEW HOPE FOR OUR PLANET.

Click Here for Free Live Webcast  
The Bay Area's newest environmental forum  
INSTITUTE AT THE GOLDEN GATE

home of the

Subscribe to the weekend Chronicle

SEARCH

SFGate Web Search by YAHOO! | Advanced Search

Sign In | Register

Home & Design Garden Style SFIS Outdoors Ski & Snow Health Green LGBT Magazine Moms Pets

Meet the first woman to lead the UC San Francisco Sunday, only in The Chronicle

PRINT & E-EDITION EXCLUSIVE



« Starbucks' bait and... | Main

### How Dixie Cups are destroying the planet

If you don't follow environmental news, you may never have heard of Koch Industries, the second largest privately held company in the United States.

Of course, if you do follow environmental news, you will have heard that the Koch brothers are aggressive funders of climate denial.

ExxonMobil has been wearing the scarlet letter D for denial, while Koch Industries has been outspending them by a margin of almost 3 to 1, according to a new report from Greenpeace. The company has pulled it off because it has no brand name. But it does own Georgia Pacific, which makes Dixie Cups, Brawny paper towels and Angel Soft and Quilted Northern toilet papers.

In and of themselves, these non-recycled throw-away paper products aren't great for the environment, but given where their profits go, it's time to toss them out for good.



per etzpup

Look at climate denial by talking points and you'll quickly stumble upon Koch money. Climategate? Check. "Polar bears are doing fine"? Check. The so-called Spanish study that, with bogus methodology, "proved" that green energy kills the economy? Check.

Think of climate denial in terms of obstructionist lawmakers and you'll quickly spot Koch money in their coffers. The brothers gave more than \$10,000 each to James Inhofe (R-Ok.), Lisa Murkowski (R-Ak.), Blanche Lincoln (D-Ark.), Jim DeMint(R-S.C.), Saxby Chambliss (R-Ga.), David Vitter (R-La.), John Boehner (R-Oh.), Eric Cantor (R-Vir.), and Joe Barton (R-Tex.).

Look at climate denial as a list of right-wing think tanks, and you'll also find Koch money in the safe: Americans for Prosperity, which funded this summer's astroturf "Hot Air" protests, got \$5 million. The Cato Institute has been on the climate beat since the 80s. In recent years alone, it's gotten \$1 million from the Koch brothers; ditto the Heritage Foundation.

So, if you're an environmentalist or you just support real science over junk science, think about crossing Brawny, Dixie Cups, Angel Soft and Quilted Northern off your shopping list for good.

Posted By: Cameron Scott (Email Twitter Facebook) | April 08 2010 at 12:56 PM

Listed Under: action alert carbon regulations climate change climate skepticism industry waste and recycling

Share f t | Email

« Starbucks' bait and... | Main

Green Home  
Your Photos  
Forum

The Thin Green Line  
Chronicle Special  
Section  
Videos



#### The Thin Green Line

Contact | About  
Follow on Twitter, Facebook

MyFeeds

Cameron Scott brings you dispatches from the environmental battlefield.  
By Cameron Scott, Read Bio

advertisement | your ad here

calottery  
**MEGA MILLIONS**  
TODAY'S JACKPOT IS \$90 MILLION  
Buy tickets now  
Please play responsibly. Must be 18 or older to play. Jackpots paid in 26 annual payments. Mega Millions overall odds 1 in 40. Jackpot odds 1 in 176 million.

#### RECENT ENTRIES

- How Dixie Cups are destroying the planet Starbucks' bait and switch
- Climate law supporters to boycott Valero
- Announcing wildflower photo contest Does congestion kill the economy?
- The Scrubber
- Will Cal. replace bad with worse?
- Adventures in online activism
- Dancin' in the dark, for the planet
- Water wars

More »

#### CATEGORIES

- action alert (30)
- adaptation (12)
- adventures in green (18)
- agriculture (55)
- air pollution (42)
- AI Gore (4)
- animal rights (5)
- appliances and electronics (10)
- biking (23)
- Bush administration (58)
- Calif. (181)
- carbon regulations (60)
- cars and driving (69)
- celebrities (11)

(39)

Add Your Comment

Sort Comments by: **Oldest** | Newest | Recommended



**vernondozier** 4/8/2010 2:41:06 PM

first it was Starbucks cups...now Dixie cups...enough with the cup fetish...please!

Recommend: (28) (20) [Permalink](#) [\[Report Abuse\]](#)



**MissionRosalind** 4/8/2010 4:24:55 PM

"you may never have heard of Koch Industries, the second largest privately held company in the United States."

Questions:

1. What do you mean by "largest"? Highest sales, most employees, most extensive real estate holdings, largest product line, highest margins, biggest number of customers, what?

2. What is the source of your ranking? It is difficult to do accurate valuation and analysis of private companies for obvious reasons. Or do you have access to non-public information?

Recommend: (8) (20) [Permalink](#) [\[Report Abuse\]](#)



**gonz** 4/8/2010 4:37:23 PM

"Questions:

1. What do you mean by "largest"? Highest sales, most employees, most extensive real estate holdings, largest product line, highest margins, biggest number of customers, what?

2. What is the source of your ranking? It is difficult to do accurate valuation and analysis of private companies for obvious reasons. Or do you have access to non-public information?"

based on estimated revenue. it took you ten times longer to post your dumb questions than it did for me to look up the answer. trying thinking for yourself.

Recommend: (24) (13) [Permalink](#) [\[Report Abuse\]](#)



**ForASong** 4/8/2010 4:37:59 PM

Do people spend money to obfuscate vital issues in our nation in order to protect their profits?

People do.

Recommend: (31) (5) [Permalink](#) [\[Report Abuse\]](#)



**sillyvalley** 4/8/2010 4:38:11 PM

#1 private company by revenue per Forbes.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Koch\\_Industries](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Koch_Industries)

Recommend: (13) (6) [Permalink](#) [\[Report Abuse\]](#)



**bmd15** 4/8/2010 4:43:25 PM

Sigh, I will post the wiki info.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Koch\\_Industries](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Koch_Industries)

In 2008 it was the second largest privately held company in the United States (after Cargill) with an annual revenue of about \$98 billion. If it were a public company, it would rank about sixteenth in the Fortune 500.

-----

My sister used to work for Koch in Houston. I love those plastic Dixie cups, they are great for spit cups (reusable and such). :)

Recommend: (11) (5) [Permalink](#) [\[Report Abuse\]](#)



**ursafilms** 4/8/2010 5:04:29 PM

How did the side of the argument that doesn't believe in anthropogenic global warming get the 'Denier' label hung on them? Let's turn the tables on the unhygienic Cameron Scott, and start calling the dopes that have switched from Global Cooling in the 70's to Global Cooking in the 90's 'Deniers.'

Okay, it's official. Anyone who still buys into this largely unproven science of man-made global warming is a Denier of Common Sense. And, from the looks of Mr. Scott's photo, a

- [china](#) (16)
- [climate change](#) (238)
- [climate skepticism](#) (26)
- [coal](#) (37)
- [contests](#) (5)
- [Copenhagen talks](#) (23)
- [deforestation](#) (48)
- [disease](#) (1)
- [drought](#) (15)
- [Earth Day](#) (4)
- [efficiency](#) (19)
- [election '08](#) (33)
- [energy](#) (138)
- [films and TV](#) (26)
- [fossil fuels](#) (87)
- [gender and sexuality](#) (18)
- [great green reads](#) (10)
- [green culture](#) (40)
- [green eating](#) (66)
- [green groups](#) (20)
- [green police](#) (4)
- [green-collar jobs](#) (50)
- [green/not green](#) (3)
- [greener institutions](#) (3)
- [growth](#) (9)
- [health](#) (48)
- [holidays and gifts](#) (2)
- [household products](#) (9)
- [hybrids](#) (11)
- [indigenous peoples](#) (15)
- [industry](#) (36)
- [international climate agreements](#) (23)
- [invasive species](#) (6)
- [labor](#) (2)
- [LEED/green building](#) (11)
- [lesser-known natural resources](#) (2)
- [mining](#) (13)
- [natural disasters](#) (1)
- [Nevada](#) (3)
- [noise and light pollution](#) (3)
- [nuclear energy](#) (4)
- [Obama administration](#) (82)
- [oceans](#) (35)
- [packaging](#) (12)
- [parks and green space](#) (24)
- [polar bears](#) (13)
- [polls](#) (6)
- [population](#) (5)
- [profiles](#) (5)
- [putting it in practice](#) (3)
- [quotables and factoids](#) (7)
- [race/ethnicity](#) (12)
- [renewables](#) (89)
- [retailers](#) (17)
- [roundup](#) (22)
- [SCOTUS](#) (4)
- [SF](#) (168)
- [tar sands](#) (9)
- [technology](#) (45)
- [this blog](#) (7)
- [tips](#) (17)
- [toxics](#) (59)
- [transit](#) (42)
- [transportation](#) (116)
- [urban nature](#) (8)
- [waste and recycling](#) (67)
- [water](#) (48)
- [weird news](#) (9)
- [weird weather watch](#) (21)
- [whales](#) (7)
- [wildfire](#) (15)
- [wildlife](#) (56)
- [youth](#) (6)

ARCHIVES

« APRIL 2010						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3

4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

denier of soap and deodorant.

Recommend: (15) (33) [Permalink](#) [\[Report Abuse\]](#)



username withheld 4/8/2010 5:05:17 PM  
This comment violated SFGate's Terms and Conditions, and has been removed.



**luvfothaset** 4/8/2010 6:40:28 PM  
Greenhouse gas effect is taught in basic biology courses at most universities. I think I'd believe a university professor over a politician when it comes to facts.

Recommend: (34) (4) [Permalink](#) [\[Report Abuse\]](#)



**Mr\_McGraw** 4/8/2010 6:55:53 PM  
Well, but the global warming forces are at least as well funded. Why not just have the debate, rather than try to turn your opponents into evil monsters?

Let's have the debate.

Recommend: (16) (14) [Permalink](#) [\[Report Abuse\]](#)

View Page: [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [Next >](#)

Comments Per Page: **10** | 20

**Add Your Comment**

You must be signed in to add a comment. [Sign In](#) | [Register](#)

Submit

**Flyerboard**



Local advertising by PaperG

**Ads by Yahoo!**

**paper hot cups Sale**

\$20 Off on paper hot cups For Every \$300 Purchase This April.  
(www.CupDepot.com)

**Hot Air Soldering at the Benchtop**

Hot Air Soldering Information, Technical Papers, Products and Solutions: Precision, pin-pointed and non-contact soldering of your SMD and BGA. Lead-free soldering solutions, too.  
(www.zeph.com)

[Home](#) [News](#) [Sports](#) [Business](#) [Entertainment](#) [Food](#) [Living](#) [Travel](#) [Columns](#) [Buy & Sell](#) [Jobs](#) [Real Estate](#) [Cars](#) [Site Index](#) [\[return to top\]](#)

**Advertising Services:** [Place a Classified](#) [Advertise in Print](#) [Advertise Online](#) [About Our Ads](#) [Public Notices](#)

**Reader Services:** [Home Delivery](#) [Subscribers](#) [E-Edition](#) [Mobile](#) [RSS Feeds](#) [Newsletters](#) [Feedback](#) [Buy Photos](#) [FAQ](#) [Corrections](#) [Get Us](#)

**Company Info:** [Contact Us](#) [Hearst Corp.](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Terms and Conditions](#) [Work for Us](#) [Chronicle in Education](#) [Events & Promotions](#) [Submissions](#)

© 2010 Hearst Communications Inc.

