

HOME & GARDEN | CURRENTS | STATIONERY

Wedding Flowers That May Outlast the Marriage

By MARIA NEWMAN OCT. 12, 2012

Brides, here's a solution for what to do with your wedding flowers, which may be withering away in your home as you contemplate whether or when to toss them.

GreenBrideGuide.com, a resource Web site for eco-minded brides and grooms, incorporates wedding flowers into thank-you cards and other stationery. Kate Harrison started the site in 2008, when she was a newlywed, to complement growing efforts to make weddings less wasteful.

"One study I read said 25 percent of brides are trying to include recycled material in their weddings," said Ms. Harrison, who has a master's degree from Yale in environmental policy. Other companies provide the means to repurpose wedding dresses and candles; Ms. Harrison offers a new life for bouquets and floral arrangements.

The stationery is made of recycled cotton fibers, and the addition of the flowers from your wedding, whether it was last week or years ago, will result in a unique final product, Ms. Harrison said.

The quantity of flowers you send does not matter, although more is better. One bouquet added to an order will “pepper” the white base paper, Ms. Harrison said. Fresher flowers may result in paper with more-visible petals, she said, because they won’t disintegrate as easily in the process of mixing the paper.

The note cards cost \$100 for an order of 50, and can be ordered through the company’s Web site.

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