

Sprint and Samsung launch biodegradable phone

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Samsung Reclaim

(AP) -- Sprint and Samsung are going to start selling a \$50 "eco-conscious" phone with a casing of biodegradable plastic.

Several manufacturers have made "green" phones, but they have generally been barebones devices, like the Motorola Renew carried by T-Mobile USA.

The new Samsung Reclaim has a slide-out standard-layout keyboard, e-mail and Web access, a camera and GPS navigation. The phone goes on sale Aug. 16.

[Samsung Electronics](#) Co. says the biodegradable plastic is made partly out of corn.

David Owens, [Sprint Nextel](#) Corp.'s director of product marketing, says the company is paying more than the usual amount of subsidies to Samsung to bring the price down to \$50 for customers signing two-year contracts.

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