

The background of the slide is a vibrant collage of Mardi Gras-themed items. It features several ornate masks with intricate cutouts and patterns in purple, green, and gold. Interspersed among the masks are strands of colorful beads, including purple, green, and gold, as well as small, shiny metallic ornaments. The overall aesthetic is festive and celebratory, typical of the Mardi Gras season.

Biodegradable Beads For Mardi Gras

By: Jones Moore
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An idea is born
through service!

The Problem

1. Most Biodegradable Beads will **biodegrade within a maximum of five years.**

2. Biodegradable Beads usually **do not contain any lead, phthalates, heavy metals, or other toxic chemicals.**

3. Biodegradable Beads are **manufactured in the United States.** There are several production facilities in the New Orleans.

4. Most Biodegradable Beads are **made in New Orleans and** match or beat current Chinese bead costs.

5. Biodegradable Beads have the same signature look **without the use of lead-based paint used in imported beads.**



Top 3 biodegradable bead companies in New Orleans:

1. Ecoware
2. NexEvo
3. Naohiro Kato

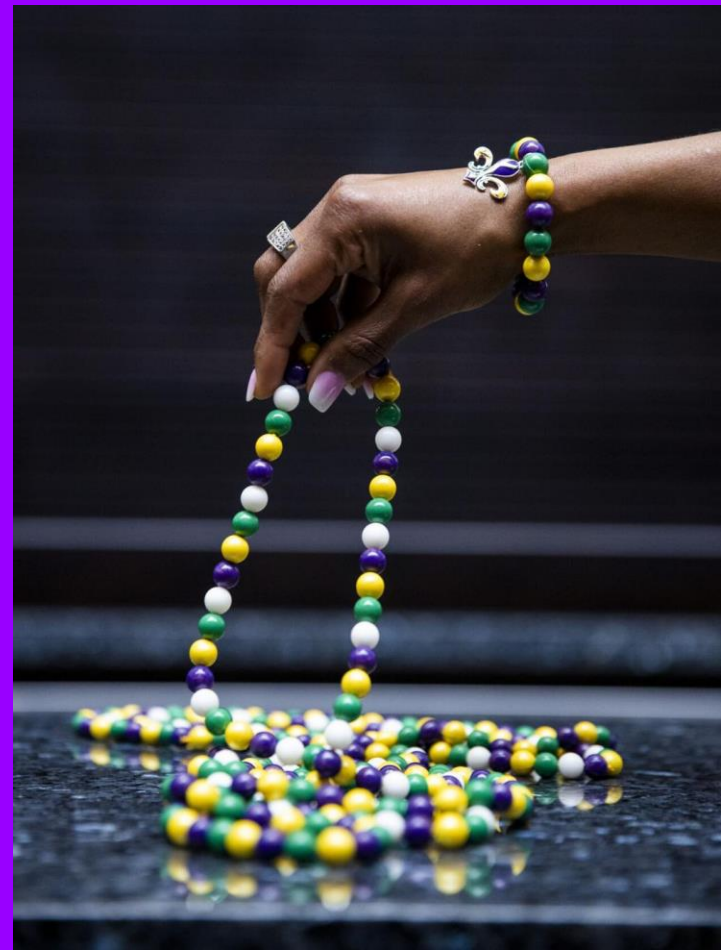


NexEvo

- NexEvo, has turned to starch as the base for his colorful Carnival beads.
- The starch material is extracted from a variety of plants in powder form that can be found in corn, wheat, rice and potatoes.
- In 2022 The Harmonia Krew in New Orleans required their members to throw only biodegradable beads.

93¢ to \$2

NexEvo Beads



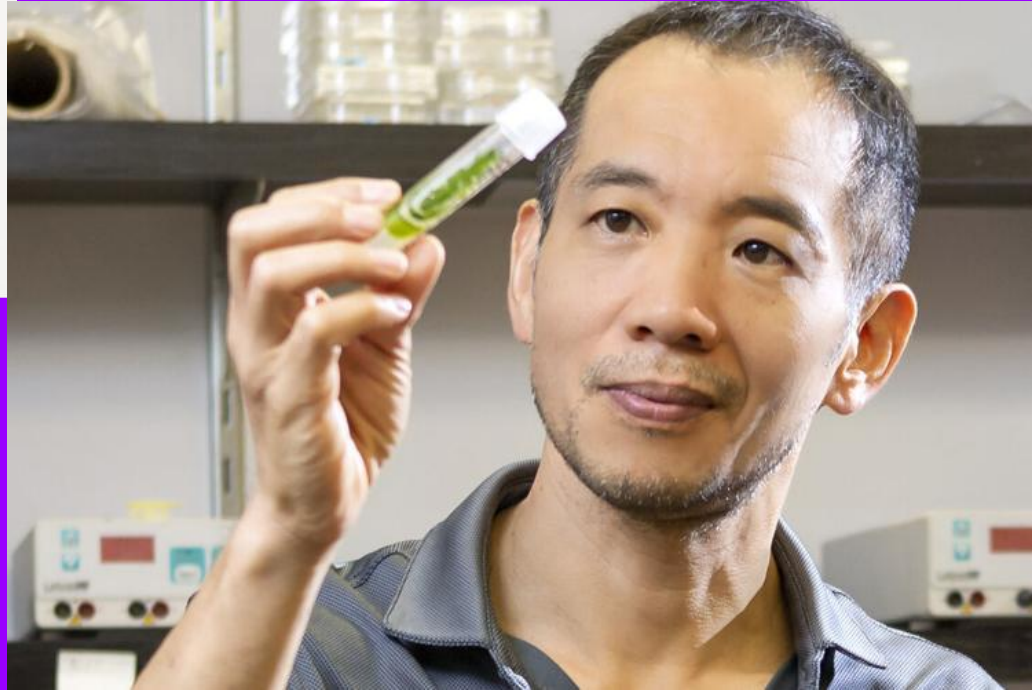
around \$5

Naohiro Kato

- **LSU Biological Sciences professor Naohiro Kato is creating biodegradable Mardi Gras beads entirely out of large amounts of microscopic algae, or microalgae, that can disintegrate over time in soil.**
- **He then used a six-foot kiddie pool to grow large amounts of the microalgae outside because Louisiana's climate is an ideal environment to naturally mass-produce microalgae.**

Naohiro Kato Beads

Around \$5



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Conclusion