



Holiday Greening Guide

Reuse



BEST Reuse these materials year after year and save time, money and resources: fabric wrap, paper gift bags, paper boxes, and raffia ribbon.



GOOD Recycle these materials if they can't be reused: maps, newspapers, or sheet music used for wrapping paper, then recycle them!



AVOID Mylar wrap, foil gift bags, and non-recyclable wrapping paper.



Gifts

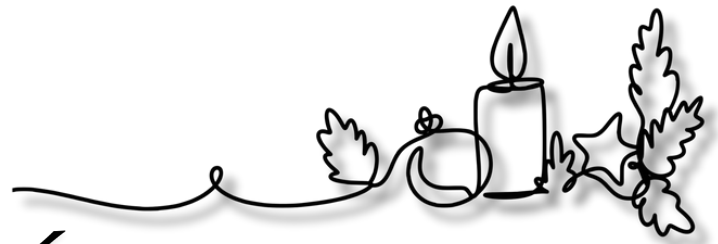
- **GIVE AN EXPERIENCE!** Share a national park pass, entrance ticket to a museum or aquarium, dance lessons, cooking class or yoga retreat.
- **DIY** Make gifts out of fabric scraps or gifts in a jar such as soups, trail mix, cookie mixes or canned fruit.
- **RECYCLED MATERIALS** Try to give gifts that have recyclable packaging. Better yet, give gifts made out of recycled materials.



Food

- **PLAN YOUR MEALS!** Buy only what you need and ensure that very little is leftover. Send guests home with leftover food.
- **STORAGE!** Store leftovers in airtight containers and freeze them before they spoil.
- **BE CREATIVE** Enjoy the encore of leftovers and make new recipes out of them.

See prc.org/kitchen for more ideas!



Recycling Guide

Plan designated containers or areas where you can separate out which items will be reused, recycled, or trashed. This will help make clean up much easier!



Greeting Cards

Cut up cards and reuse them as gift labels. Recycle them with curbside paper. NO cards embossed with foil or other non-paper material. NO ribbons, photos, or photo paper. NO metallic wrapping paper, ribbons, bows, ornaments, tissue paper, dark or fluorescent paper, or tape.



Wrapping Paper

This type of paper is considered a contaminant in the recycling bin and must be put in the trash along with ribbons and bows.

Tissue Paper

Reuse, compost or put in the trash. Tissue paper cannot be recycled with curbside paper recycling

Plastic Bags, Bubble Wrap, Flat Mailers

Drop off at specialty locations such as local grocery stores. Find Plastic Film and Bags Drop Offs with [NexTrex Directory](#).



Holiday String Lights and Extension Cords

Bundle and tie with loose end so they don't get caught in machinery. Drop off at specialty locations or at an electronics collection event. *See Resources.*



Batteries

DO NOT PUT IN TRASH. Especially Lithium-ion batteries can cause fires. Take to drop off locations including Staples. Lowes takes rechargeable batteries. See [Call2Recycle](#) for drop off locations.

Paper Bags and Cardboard Boxes

Remove non-paper handles and metal grommets. Flatten and recycle with paper or curbside cardboard.

Tree Recycling

Cut up your tree and use it as mulch. Take it to a collection in your area. *See Resources.*

Styrofoam

Drop off at specialty locations. *See Resources.*

Resources

Nationwide

Nationwide recycling search [Earth911](#)

The store [Staples](#) will take many electronics, batteries, and school supplies.

Pennsylvania

Ask your local PA County Recycling Coordinator using [PADEP's contact information](#)

Keep PA Beautiful Recycling and waste reduction [resources](#) by County

PRC electronics [collection event schedule](#)

Call PA's recycling hotline at 1-800-346-4242

PRC [glass recycling](#) drop off locations

Western Pennsylvania

Find items like maps and sheet music for wrapping paper at the [Pittsburgh Center for Creative ReUse](#)

[Allegheny County Recycling Drop Off Map](#)

Eastern Pennsylvania

Recycling and donation [resources](#) for the Philadelphia area

[Goodwill Stores](#) in central and southeast PA offer free electronics recycling