

Holiday Recycling Cheat Sheet



A small gift to help you make this an eco-friendly holiday season!



Wrapping Paper



Is it shiny? Does it have foil or glitter? If yes, try to reuse or send to landfill.

If not, call your local recycler. Most will accept, but some don't because of the low quality paper or clay content. Some will accept but have designated drop off locations.

Gift Bows and Ribbons



Unrecyclable. Save for next holiday season or reuse for arts and other decorations. If reuse is not an option, send to landfill.

Christmas Tree



Live cut tree: Strip tree of all ornaments, lights, tinsel. Remove any plastic you're using to keep your home clean. Follow your city's pickup schedule or drop off location. Tree will be mulched and used as the city needs.

Potted tree: Plant tree outside, ensuring your climate is favorable.

Artificial tree: Save for the next year or donate / giveaway. If that isn't feasible, ask your local recycler. Most likely it will need be landfilled.

Christmas Lights



Save for future holidays seasons. If lights are broken, find local facility that accepts them for recycling, such as Lowes or Home Depot.

Lights are typically sent to China where the plastic, copper and brass is stripped out and used for other goods.

Gift Cards



Once used, see if the company accepts them back and reuses them.

If not, send to EarthWorks or drop off at a local Best Buy.