

RECYCLING 101

HELP KEEP THE EVERGREEN STATE CLEAN

ALL SEASON LONG

Have Fun with Recycling this Holiday Season!

Consider gifts that are environmentally friendly and sustainable

Choose gifts with minimal packaging

Consider alternative gifts such as charitable donations or volunteerism in the recipient's name

Save gently used gift wrap, gift bags, ribbons and bows for reuse

Make a list before you go

Help conserve energy! Decorate with energy efficient LED lights

Keep the recycle cycle going... End 2014 on a great note and make 2015 an even better year for the planet!

Repurpose packaging such as foam peanuts and bubble wrap or use shredded newspaper for packing material

Consider repurposing recycled items such as glass bottles and aluminum cans or discarded household items like light bulbs, into unique holiday crafts, gifts and decorations

Several websites, such as Pinterest, have creative tips for recycled and repurposed holiday crafts

Get a live tree for the holidays, and once the season is over, consider planting it in your yard

If you have a cut tree, consider using it as mulch

Donate used clothing to local charities

DID YOU KNOW?

Help protect the environment by reducing waste and recycling more.

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates the average American household throws away nearly 125 pounds of trash per week
- From Thanksgiving to New Year's, Americans discard 25 percent more trash than normal, or approximately 940 pounds of waste
- Roughly 80 percent of what is discarded during the holidays could be recycled or reused

We encourage families to make recycling a part of their holiday tradition. It's a simple way to make a positive difference in the local environment by diverting items that can be recycled. It can also potentially save your family money by identifying items that can be reused in creative ways.



Republic Services started recycling in Washington over 25 years ago. With its giant recycling center located in Seattle, Republic recycles over 200,000 tons of material each year. That's the weight of nearly 500 fully-loaded Boeing 747 airplanes! This state-of-the-art center sorts material down to the molecular level with high-tech optical scanners. Yes, this equipment actually "sees" what goes where! How cool is that?

But even with the best recycling center in the Northwest, we need *your* help to reduce waste and recycle more at home and at school. Learn more at republicservices.com.



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