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CLUTTER



Did you know that the holiday season between Thanksgiving and Christmas is the single most wasteful period in the U.S.? Each year, we generate 25 percent more trash in this country during this time, about one million extra tons. Here are some tips for clearing out the holiday clutter in an environmentally thoughtful way.

Use holiday cards as decorations. Add popcorn, cranberries, cookie dough and other home-made ornaments to your tree. Turn old cards into holiday postcards or gift tags for next year. Donate cards. Find out more at stjudesranch.org.

Consider replacing old light strings with LED lights. LEDs use 90% less energy. Recycle your old lights and cords at eCycle.

Recycle gift bags, shopping bags, boxes, tins, wrapping paper in good condition, and fancy ribbon. If every U.S. family recycled just two feet of holiday ribbon, the resulting 38,000 miles of ribbon would tie a bow around the earth! Recycle wrapping paper and tissue paper free of excess tape at any convenience site.

Recycle your cut tree at one of the county's citizens' convenience sites Dec. 26 - Jan. 31. All sites accept trees free of decorations, tinsel, and wire except Greenwood. Organic waste is ground into mulch and re-used!

Donate your used cooking oil for conversion to bio-diesel. Try www.freecycle.org or visit the landfill's citizens' center to recycle used vegetable oil.

Compost food scraps from holiday dinners. (Leave out meats and dairy products.) Also, compost your holiday greenery. Reward your garden and flower bed in the spring with homegrown humus.

Don't trash your treasures. Remember local charitable organizations when cleaning out closets to make room for new gifts. Make sure donations are in very good condition. *Save-a-Sole* recycles shoes, luggage, backpacks, etc. in any condition! *ReThreads* recycles gently used clothing, linens, drapes, fabric & stuffed animals. Visit your neighborhood convenience site. SAS collection boxes can also be found at the Workingman's Store/Total Image and the Frederick County Animal Shelter.

Shipping a gift? Reuse packing peanuts or try unbuttered popcorn.

Carry reusable totes when shopping.

Recycle old electronics. Updating electronic gadgets? Bring e-waste to eCycle on Sat., Jan. 9th at the landfill. (Fees for computer screens and tvs.) Old electronics are simply too good to waste!



Frederick
County
Recycling

May your holiday be
merry and green!

665-5643 • www.fcrecycles.net

