

Choose Less

During the five weeks between Thanksgiving and New Years, it's estimated that the nation's trash increases by an extra one million tons per week. To help trim the trash while trimming the tree, you can reduce waste while you eat, drink, and make merry this holiday season.

Happy Holidays!



Ways to Trim Your Holiday Waste line:

- Use reusable bags while shopping for a party and gifts.
- Turn down the heat before the guests arrive. You'll save energy while the extra body heat of you guests warms the room.
- Choose LED lights for your decorations - LEDs use nearly 90 percent less energy than incandescent bulbs. Light sets with built-in timers also save money and energy.
- Be real for the holidays – use washable dishes, utensils and napkins.
- Decorate with natural items — squashes, gourds and colorful leaves for a fall festival; pine cones and natural wreaths for winter holidays).
- Use your own camera instead of using disposable cameras.
- Give gifts that encourage others to use less stuff, such as gift cards, reusable tote bags, reused books – the possibilities are endless!
- Wrapping can be environmentally-friendly, too: Kid's artwork is perfect for wrapping gifts to relatives.
- Better yet, give gifts that don't have to be wrapped at all. Gifts of experience, like tickets to concerts and sporting events, museum memberships, houseplants, or even gifts of your time to help others will be remembered long after other presents wear out.

Go beyond recycling to waste prevention this holiday season. Choose less and significantly reduce pollution and waste.

