

ENVIRONMENTAL TIP #24



DID YOU KNOW there are many ways to do your part to protect the environment during the holidays? Here are some Green Holiday Tips:

Bring your own shopping bags. Use reusable shopping bags and consolidate your purchases into one bag rather than getting a new bag at each store.

Buy rechargeable batteries to accompany your electronic gifts. Approximately 40 percent of all battery sales occur during the holiday season. Rechargeable batteries reduce the amount of toxic materials thrown away and save money. Don't throw away conventional batteries, recycle them.

Make your own wrapping paper. Most mass-produced wrapping paper is not recyclable and ends up in landfills. Wrap presents with old maps, the comics section of a newspaper, or children's artwork. If every family wrapped just three gifts this way, it would save enough paper to cover 45,000 football fields.

Avoid buying glossy foil or metallic wrapping paper – these materials are difficult to recycle. Reuse gift wrap, ribbons, bows, boxes, and bags.

Make gift tags out of last years holiday cards and calendars. Tie a bow around oversized gifts, instead of wrapping them in paper.