

FACT SHEET

GUIDE NO. 6
HOLIDAY WASTE REDUCTION IDEAS



The three (3) "R"'s of recycling stand for:

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Many people tend to forget about the first two (2), and while recycling is a great and effective option, waste reduction and reuse of materials should be considered first! This holiday season keep these waste reduction and reuse tips in mind!

REDUCE

- Use reusable metal baking trays rather than disposable aluminum.
- Before you recycle all of those gift catalogs, take a minute to pick out the ones you do not want to receive anymore. Call their toll-free numbers now and ask to get off their mailing list.
- If possible do not use plastic utensils, dinnerware and napkins for your parties.



REUSE

- Bring your own, reusable shopping bag when you are picking out that perfect gift.
- Before opening wrapped packages, set a box aside to collect the reusable ribbons, bows and other package decorations.
- Most gift boxes can be flattened and reused throughout the year for other items.
- Put this year's Holiday Cards away to cut up and use as tags for next year's gifts.
- Set aside a large box or bag to collect the torn gift wrap. If there are large uncrumpled pieces of wrap, consider using them for wrapping future gifts.
- Don't forget about donation programs after the holidays for clothes, small appliances and electronics.
- Don't use gift boxes. Wrap your gifts with recycled wrapping paper or place in reusable gift bags.

RECYCLE

In Plymouth Township you can place all of your paperboard and boxboard as well as your corrugated cardboard at the curb for recycling. Large boxes must be cut into sections no larger than 3 foot x 3 foot and placed on top of, next to or inside of your orange recycle bin.



Don't forget to place the items below in your recycle bin, too!

Plastics 1 through 7




PET

PET stands for polyethylene terephthalate, a plastic resin and a form of polyester. Household examples include most soft drinks and water bottles, peanut butter jars and juice containers.


HDPE


HDPE stands for high density polyethylene and is considered by many as the best food grade plastic. Household examples include most milk containers, laundry detergent bottles, and over the counter medication and vitamin bottles.


PVC


PVC stands for polyvinyl chloride and is known for its ability to withstand chemical solutions. Household examples include most household cleaner bottles, shampoo and lotion bottles and some cooking oil bottles.


LDPE

LDPE stands for low density polyethylene and is a flexible plastic. Household examples include bread, dry cleaning and grocery bags and squeezable bottles.


PP

PP stands for polypropylene and is a flexible plastic. Household examples include yogurt and butter tubs, syrup, and ketchup bottles, drinking straws and prescription medicine bottles.


PS

PS stands for polystyrene which can be formulated into both hard and softer plastic-the softer plastic is known most commonly by the brandname, Styrofoam. **At this time Styrofoam is NOT ACCEPTED.** Household examples that can be recycled include plastic cups, plates and CD/DVD cases.


OTHER

OTHER represents everything else plastic. Household examples that can be recycled include Tupperware products, large water jugs, CD and DVD's.