



Holiday 2009

Vol 2, Issue 4



Recycling E-News

Recycling Information from
Waukesha County

Dear Marcia

Happy holidays Waukesha County!

We hope you have a safe and happy
holiday season!



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Sorting Through the Green Holiday Tips



With so many green holiday tips to choose from these days, it can be overwhelming! The important thing is to consider ways to reduce waste from

your celebrations. We've developed two lists and added our own "spin" to help sort through all the advice out there:

Here are a few of the most common tips on being greener for the holiday season:

1) Avoid excessive gift giving and focus the season on sharing experiences with family and loved ones. Can your family members remember what they received and gave each other last year? And, are they still using it?

Planning for Spring!



We can all help reduce pollution in area lakes and streams!

Rain gardens and rain barrels are an easy way to start. Sign up by January 31st to order ½ price rain garden plants.

Call 262-896-8305 or visit
www.waukeshacounty.gov/cleanwater

2) Buy a real tree instead of an artificial one. Most Wisconsin trees are locally grown and sold, while at least 95% of artificial trees come from China. Real trees are easily composted or mulched after the season, returning them to a natural state.

3) Use anything but wrapping paper to wrap gifts. Most wrapping paper is not recyclable and in most cases, gets used only once. Use gift bags, decorated grocery bags or reusable boxes instead. Cloth, old maps--anything can be used for a shabby chic wrap!

Here are a few tips you may not have considered before:

1) Bringing your own reusable bags to shop not only avoids using unnecessary plastic bags, but also conceals the origin of the contents when you are **sneaking** them into the house!

2) When buying electronic toys needing batteries, buy rechargeable batteries and a charger instead of single-use disposable ones. (1 rechargeable battery can save 1,000 disposable)

3) Shop thrift stores first for gifts. These will be fun re-used items and are more affordable as well.

4) Welcome hand-me-downs & "re-gifts" as gifts to you from your family and let them know you appreciate their resourcefulness in finding use for items they don't use.

City of Waukesha Recycling Changes!

Residents of the City of Waukesha will see a change in their recycling collection starting the week of January 18th, 2010.

Recycling will now be collected on alternate weeks. Additional FREE blue bins are available to all residents.

For more information, please visit www.ci.waukesha.wi.us

Mother Earth Gift Ideas

Be sure to remember Mother Earth on your shopping list this year! What do you get the planet that has everything?...as in, everything we need to live. Fortunately for all of us, Mother Earth doesn't have expensive taste. She just wants all of us to do a little more to show we care:

- Always turn off lights in unoccupied rooms around

Fast Facts

- Between Thanksgiving and New Years, 25% more waste is generated than any other time of the year.

- During this time, American's boost their electricity consumption by 27%.

- 38,000 miles of ribbon used for wrapping is thrown away every year. For perspective, the Earth's circumference is 25,000 miles.

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your home and use less lighting for holiday decorations.

- Starting a compost bin or pile in your yard or where you work or go to school. Much of your holiday waste could be composted instead of trashed including your tree, food waste, organic decorations, and shredded paper.

- Be sure to always Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle!

Remember, you can't go wrong with anything green, organic, efficient, resourceful, or that does less to stress her out. If nothing else, Mother Earth always appreciates a hug!

Free Blue Bin

For residents of the County's Recycling program, free blue bins are available at several community locations and special events. Participating communities include the cities of Brookfield, Delafield, New Berlin, Oconomowoc, Pewaukee, and Waukesha. Towns of Brookfield, Delafield, Lisbon, Merton, Oconomowoc, Summit, and Waukesha. Villages of Big Bend, Chenequa, Dousman, Eagle, Elm Grove, Hartland, Lac La Belle, Meron, Nashotah, Oconomowoc Lake, Pewaukee, and Wales.

Visit your city, town, or village hall!

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Waukesha County | 515 W Moreland Blvd | Room 260 | Waukesha | WI | 53188