

Earth MOM™

Recycling tips for the holidays

During the winter holidays we celebrate peace on earth and family connections. The gifting season is a perfect time to consider how we can get closer to those goals and communicate our values to our children and community through simple actions.

Shop locally

Between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve, we add an additional five million tons of trash to the garbage—25 percent more than usual—enough to cover more than 50,000 football fields.

Reduce the amount that goes into the waste by buying locally made, high-quality gifts. Recipients know their gifts are special and carefully chosen. And kids are learning about good stewardship practices when we choose gifts that are good for the planet.

Here are some earth-friendly tips. Choose gifts that are:

- » durable and can be re-used or repaired
- » unpackaged or minimally packaged
- » made with fair labor practices

Wrap gifts sustainably

Nearly half of the 85 million tons of paper products Americans consume every year go toward packaging, wrapping and decorating goods. Even changing how you wrap the gifts will make a difference.

Here are some fun wrapping ideas:

- » kids' paper artwork
- » re-usable bowls or containers
- » fabric scraps tied with yarn
- » brown paper bags with twine
- » large leaves tied with grass

- » pressed leaves glued onto a recycled box
- » comics
- » maps
- » calendar art
- » simple cloth bags with two straight seams to make a rectangular bag

Earth MOM™ is courtesy of Nearby Nature and Eugene True Value Hardware.



Meet Earth MOM™

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