



December 23, 2019



*SalemRecycles Wishes You a
Happy and Eco-friendly
Holiday Season!*

Dreaming of a Green Holiday?

Did you know that Americans generate **25% more household waste over the holidays** than at other times of the year? Think about it--trash barrels full of food waste, shopping bags, bows, ribbons, packaging, wrapping paper and more add an additional 1 million tons of waste a week. Ouch.

How to proceed?

- Reduce the need for gift wrap by using **cloth bags**. Then reuse them every year. Here's a picture of the gifts under Salem resident Kristin Woodruff's tree. Her family has been making and saving bags for over 20 years!
- **Save boxes, ribbons, bows & decorations.** Use them again next year.



- Reuse your food waste! If you don't already do it, sign up for **Curbside Compost pickup with Black Earth**. They'll take your ham and turkey bones, meat, fish, paper napkins and towels -- even greasy portions of your pizza boxes. Turn this "garbage" into food for the micro organisms that make it into rich organic soil. For approx. \$2.25/week, you can **live your values**.

Holiday Recycling FAQ's:

Q. Can I recycle wrapping paper?

A. No. Put it in the trash and think about other options for next year, like

using brown paper from paper bags and decorating them with markers or stamps.

Q. Can I recycle ribbons & bows?

A. No!! Save them to reuse another time. If you can't do that, throw them in the trash.

Q. What about holiday cards?

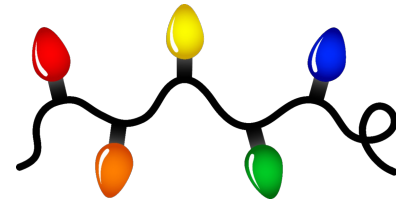
A. Mostly no. Cards with NO metallic inks, foil, wire, ribbon or glitter can be recycled curbside. All other greeting cards should go in the trash.

Q. Can I recycle tissue paper?

A. No, but Black Earth will accept it for composting. (Another reason to sign up!)

Q. What about Christmas tree lights?

A. Absolutely not! They are not recyclable curbside and they are not trash!



Drop them off at Salem's e-waste collection, Saturday, December 28. (See section below)

Copper and other materials in tree lights can be reclaimed. If you can't take them to one of the quarterly e-waste collections, there are also several companies you can send them to. One even uses the proceeds to purchase Toys for Tots. [Click here](#) for an article that describes each of these services.

E waste, Overflow Trash Bags & Tree Pickup

E-Waste:

Salem residents & property owners (with ID or tax bill) can recycle e-waste on the last Saturday of each quarter. The next e-waste collection is **Saturday, December 28 from 8:00AM - noon at Salem High School, [77 Willson St.](#)**

Recycle anything with a plug!

Most items are free, however there is a \$20 charge for TVs, monitors, large appliances and large exercise equipment. [Click here](#) for more detailed information.

Overflow Trash Bags On Sale!

The annual holiday discount for Orange Trash Overflow Bags is here! (but we hope you won't need them). Purchase them only at the Collector's Office in City Hall and the Community Life Center for \$1 each (normally \$2.50) until Jan. 6.



For more information visit

<https://www.salem.com/home/news/discounted-orange-trash-overflow-bags-available-holiday-season-3>

Note: If you have excess paper or cardboard to recycle, you may drop it off at Greif at 53 Jefferson Ave. -- please keep paper and cardboard separate for that location.

Tree Pick Up:

The annual curbside tree pick up will take place the weeks of Dec. 30 and January 6 on your regular trash pickup day. Please remove all ornaments, wires, lights, tinsel and plastic. Your tree will be ground up and used as mulch.



Kissing balls and wreaths will NOT be picked up. (Too many wires.)

Connect with Us



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