

Holiday Recycling Guide

Make less Holiday Waste & MORE Holiday Cheer 



GIFT GIVING

Keep it simple, one thoughtful gift is better than many trinkets.

- Give **home-made goodies**. Share in reusable containers like baskets, tins, or jars.
- Give the **gift of an experience**. Music lessons, lessons for a new hobby, a massage, a trip to a state park, passes for a museum, tickets to a sporting event, or concert. This is perfect for friends who want to try something new but aren't willing to spend the money on themselves. Plus, you don't have to wrap the gift.
- Give a **gift of time or talent**. Take someone to a play, concert, or movie. Make gift certificates for a special dinner, pet sitting, or house cleaning. Offer your talents at gardening, photography, or financial planning. Better yet, teach someone a skill you possess such as knitting, woodworking, or playing an instrument.
- Make a **charitable donation** in the recipient's name or give a membership to a museum, environmental, or other non-profit organization.
- Create **theme box for kids**. Like a dress up box filled with pre-owned costume jewelry, scarves, hats, aprons, and ties. Or a box with cooking equipment and a recipe with ingredients for aspiring chefs. Or give a blank journal or scrapbook with scissors and tape and other art supplies for creative kids.
- Give a **Green Gift** such as compost bin, can crusher, battery charger, programmable thermostat, rain barrel, house plant, bird feeder, light timers, reusable bag, water bottle, gardening tools, seeds, or bat house.
- Consider a gift's **durability** and purchase products made with recycled materials.
- Avoid gag gifts.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
In Allegany County




57% OF
AMERICANS WILL
RECEIVE AN
UNWANTED GIFT
FOR
CHRISTMAS
finder.com/unwanted-gifts



GIFT WRAP

Wrapping paper is NOT recyclable.

- Don't wrap gifts. Hide them and give the recipient clues. Make the search a treasure hunt or play "hot & cold."
- Make the wrapping a useful part of the gift. Put cookies in a flower pot or hide jewelry in a new pair of gloves or socks, wrap an item in a scarf or bandana.
- Reuse old posters, comics, newspaper, colorful shopping bags, old maps, paper market bags to wrap gifts.



LIGHTS

Merry, bright, and saving money.

- Choose **LED lights**. They last up to 10 times longer and use up to 99% less energy than traditional holiday lights.
- Use a **timer** for energy savings and peace of mind while you're away.
- Purchase **lights wired in parallel**. If one bulb goes bad, the others still work, so you won't be throwing away "bad" strands.



HOLIDAY CARDS

Send personal, paperless greetings.

- Skip the paper. E-mail electronic holiday greetings.
- Save paper by **creating greeting cards from scrap paper**. This can be a fun family project and a way to give your cards a personal touch.
- Reuse. Save the cards that you get in the mail, cut off the front pictures, and reuse as "postcards" next year. This saves on postage too.
- Create & upcycle cards into gift tags or into ornaments.
- Choose **recycled**. Purchase cards made from recycled paper. Add a personal note to those cards, to make them a more personal and meaningful use of resources.
- Avoid **glitter, foil, and electronic cards** as they are NOT recyclable.



HOLIDAY GATHERINGS

Plan ahead when entertaining.

- Eliminate using **disposable plates, cups, napkins, and silverware**. Borrow, rent, or thrift reusable alternatives.
- Ask guest **them to bring containers** to take leftovers home.
- Decorate your **table** by making a colorful and edible centerpiece using an assortment fruits, vegetables and nuts. Compost it after the holidays.
- Donate and share **leftovers** to the local food bank or soup kitchen.



Yes Virginia, you can recycle these holiday leftovers! Here's how....



BATTERIES

- CHOOSE rechargeable batteries. Reduce the amount of potentially harmful materials thrown away and save money in the long run.
- RECYCLE rechargeable batteries recycle at retailers like Staples and Lowe's.
- DISPOSE of dry cell and alkaline batteries into your normal trash.



POPCORN & COOKIE TINS

- REUSE to wrap gifts or share more treats.
- RECYCLE with the mixed metal cans.



ELECTRONICS



301-724-1000

Monitors \$10
Towers \$5
Microwaves \$5
TVs 2.00\$/lb

301-729-7840

No TVs & CRTs
Limit 6 items/day
FREE



301-759-3277

LaVale 301-729-3924

No TVs
FREE

Retailers and manufacturers, like Apple, Amazon, and Walmart, Items with freon \$10 offer buy-back programs to recycle newer devices even if they are no longer working, check online for details.

TV Disposal

If it is cost prohibitive to recycle the TV, you can throw it away:

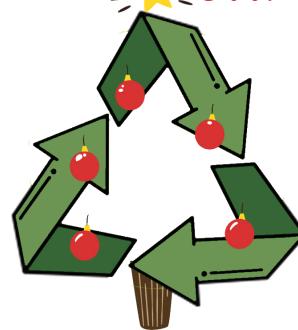
County Residents can dispose of TV's at Refuse Sites with 5 trash stickers (\$5). Limit 3-per-day.

City of Cumberland Residents can call 301-759-6620 to schedule a bulk pick up for large TVs for a fee.



GREETING CARDS

- UPCYCLE cards to create gift tags or decorations.
- RECYCLE ENVELOPES with office paper.
- RECYCLE CARDS with cardboard. NO glitter, foil, or non-paper decorations.
- REUSE Allegany County Public Schools and the Board of Education Office accepts holiday cards to be upcycled to spread holiday cheer through service projects next year. Collection is through the end of January. Contact Kara Kennel for more information at 301-759-2000.



Christmas Tree Recycling

December 26 - January 31

Recycle your Christmas tree into free mulch!
Remove all ornaments, lights, and tinsel.
No flocked trees.

DROP OFF LOCATIONS

For hours of operation call 301-777-5933 or visit alleganygov.org/recycle

Mulch & Yard Trim Recycling Site.....PPG Road, Cumberland
M.V. Smith Refuse Site.....10111 M.V. Smith Road
Lions Field LaVale.....1111 Braddock Rd
Lonaconing Little League Ballfield..... Railroad St
Mt Savage Community Park.....Lower Bank St
Oldtown Refuse Site.....20124 Oldtown Rd SE
Westernport Town Garage.....Chestnut Street



HOLIDAY CATALOGS

- RECYCLE with magazines.



TWINKLE LIGHTS

- RECYCLE Penn-Mar Recycling Mon-Fri; 8am—4pm in rear of the building where scrap metal & electronics are accepted.

Recycling Naughty List

Throw in the Trash & Make a Resolution to Reduce

- Artificial Trees*
- Candle Jars
- Gift Bags*
- Glass Ornaments*
- Mugs & Ceramics*
- Ribbons & Bows

*donate item, if it is in good condition

When in doubt if something is recyclable please throw it away to avoid contaminating the whole bin of recyclables.



301-777-2877

40¢/lb Laptops
10¢/lb Towers
Pays Customer



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40¢/lb Laptops
10¢/lb Towers
Pays Customer



Allegany County

Reduce • Reuse • Recycle

Contact Allegany County
Recycling for more information about reducing, reusing, how and what to recycle, and to sign up for news about recycling events.