

# Reduce, Reuse & Recycle for the Holidays

Don't Let  
the Holidays  
Go to Waste!

For more tips:  
[www.LaneCounty.org/  
LessIsBest](http://www.LaneCounty.org/LessIsBest)

Item	Reduce	Reuse	Recycle
Gift Boxes	Decorate cereal, shoe or other boxes instead of buying new.	Flatten gift boxes neatly for easy storage and reuse.	Recyclable curbside and at Lane County recycling stations.
Ribbons and Bows	Reuse last year's bows. Make bows out of yarn, dried flowers, video/audio tape, or Mylar food wrappers.	Save ribbons and bows in a sturdy box (so bows will not get crushed) for best reuse next year.	<b>Not recyclable.</b> Reduce and reuse gift decorations in year 'round gift giving. Donate to thrift stores and reuse organizations.
Wrapping Paper	Use comics, maps, posters and cloth wrapping. If you purchase wrapping paper, <b>make sure it has recycled content—read the label.</b>	Use reusable gift bags and boxes. Open gifts carefully, with reuse in mind. Fold neatly and store.	Recyclable curbside and at Lane County recycling stations. <b>Not recyclable: foil coated or plastic coated papers, gift bags and ribbons.</b>
Greeting Cards	Save money and paper with postcard or email greetings. If you purchase cards, <b>be sure to find post consumer recycled content cards.</b>	Reuse greeting cards as next year's postcard greetings, gift tags or make ornaments and crafts with them. Donate to MECCA, 541-302-1810	Recyclable as mixed paper curbside or at Lane County recycling stations <b>after plastic parts and foil are removed.</b>
Gift Tags	Write the name on the wrapping itself, make from last year's cards, or if you buy new, <b>look for recycled content—read the label.</b>	Reuse gift wrap, cards or favorite drawings to make new gift tags.	Paper tags are recyclable as mixed paper <b>after string, ribbon, plastic and foil is removed.</b>
Packing peanuts & Bubble Wrap	Request the least amount of packaging. Pack your gifts with old wrapping paper, shredded or natural fiber packing materials.	Reuse peanuts for your shipping. St.Vincent DePaul and most pack- and-ship stores take peanuts for reuse.	Recycling not necessary, Highly reusable and desired by Pack-and-ship stores, St.Vincent de Paul and various arts and ebay retailers.
Block Styrofoam Packaging	Request minimal packaging, natural fiber packaging that is compostable, or paper pulp packaging that is recyclable.	Save flats & scraps for craft projects or future shipping.	Recyclable at St.Vincent de Paul. Individuals may drop off for free. Businesses can call 541-687-5820 for commercial pricing (modest fee)
Catalogs	Request removal from mailing list at time of order.	Share with friends and neighbors if interested.	Recyclable as mixed paper curbside or at Lane County sites.
Paper Plates, Cups, etc.	Use durable, washable table ware. Call 541-682-2059 to borrow durable picnic dishware.	Paper cups and plates aren't very reusable. Use as few as possible.	<b>Not recyclable.</b> Please reduce or reuse. May be compostable but beware of plastic liners.
Plastic Cups, Forks, etc.	Use durable, washable, table and silver ware. Call 682-2059 to borrow durable picnic dishware.	Many brands of plastic can be washed and reused.	<b>Not recyclable.</b> Please reduce your use. Uncoated plates may be compostable. Cups are not compostable due to plastic liner. Even biodegradable-lined cups must go to Rexius—call them for disposal prices at 541-342-1835.
Christmas Trees	Decorate a live tree in your yard. Bring a potted tree or evergreen bows inside to decorate.	Reuse trimmings from local fir trees to fashion a Christmas tree, swags and wreaths.	Compostable. Ask your garbage company if they recycle trees, put branches in yard debris cart, or watch the news for charity or scouts offering tree pickup/recycling.



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Lane County Waste Management Division