

## 15 Tips for a Green Christmas

*How to save the planet and celebrate the season*



With so much added waste floating around at the Christmas season it can be difficult to celebrate the holidays with an environmentally friendly way. Here are the top 15 tips for caring for the environment while you enjoy the holidays:

1. Don't give gifts. Donate to an environmental charity instead.
2. Give environmentally friendly gifts that don't increase waste.
3. Bring your own reusable bag to the store when you are Christmas shopping.
4. Don't use paper to wrap your gifts. Put them in a reusable bag or wrap them up in a second gift like a scarf or hat. Or don't wrap them at all!
5. Use rechargeable batteries in all your Christmas electronics and gifts.
6. Use garland instead of lights to save energy.
7. Only use your outdoor lights for two to five hours a day or when you are having company.
8. Decorate with pieces that can be used in other seasons.
9. Compost left over holiday foods.
10. Decorate your home with natural ornaments: holly, evergreen, cranberries, popcorn and fruit are all compostable.
11. Use longer rolls of film or take digital photos to reduce cost and waste.
12. Put up an artificial tree.
13. Buy a live tree and replant it after the holidays.
14. Recycle your Christmas tree.
15. Save your Christmas wrap, decorations and cards to reuse next year.

It is easy to shape your Christmas celebrations with conservation in mind. Encourage your friends and family be environmentally friendly and Christmas time will no longer seem so wasteful.



**R**ecycling  
**E**nvironmental  
**A**ction  
**P**lanning  
**S**ociety