

# Holiday Guide



## 6 Ways to Go Green this Holiday Season



### 1 Use LED Holiday Lights

LED lights last up to 10 times longer, use 80% less energy than traditional incandescent holiday lights and are ENERGY STAR qualified. They are also more durable and shock resistant because they do not have moving parts, filaments or glass. Don't forget to recycle your old lights!



### 2 Re-charge it!

Every year over 15 billion batteries are produced worldwide, and many are alkaline batteries that are thrown out after just one use. Replace your alkaline batteries with rechargeable ones. Newer models can charge in as little as 15 minutes! Save money and help the environment at the same time.



### 3 Make Gatherings Zero Waste

Instead of disposable tableware, serve food on real, reusable dishware. Borrow dish sets and utensils from friends, or go thrift store shopping for a special holiday set. Decorate the table with gourds and squash, bowls full of apples, or other seasonal fruits and veggies. Prevent food waste: Ask friends to bring containers for leftovers.



### 4 Stop Junk Mail

The holidays can bring catalogs and other mail asking you to buy, buy, buy. But you can stop them! As soon as you receive an unwanted publication, call their 1-800 number and ask to be removed from their list. Learn more tricks, including 6 steps to getting and staying off mailing lists, at [ecocycle.org/junkmail](http://ecocycle.org/junkmail).



### 5 Wrap it & Pack it Eco-Style

While we will be accepting wrapping paper for a limited time, its high-clay and low-paper content makes it difficult to recycle. Instead, get creative and choose reused/reusable alternatives like comics, posters, maps, blueprints, or calendars (all recyclable), fabric, reusable paper or cloth gift bags, bandannas, etc. For shipping, replace foam or bubble wrap with balled up newspaper or magazine pages.



### 6 Don't give "stuff"

Instead of buying new products or things for your friends and loved ones, give meaningful gifts that will enhance their lives. *Some ideas...*

- Give experiences in the form of gift cards to museums, parks, or the movies.
- Give something edible; make a dessert or a healthy snack packaged in reusable mason jars.
- Give products that will help your friends and family go green, such as stainless steel water bottles, mugs, or reusable lunch/to-go containers, like those pictured.



Read our complete Holiday Guide online at [www.ecocycle.org/holidayguide](http://www.ecocycle.org/holidayguide)

Check the **A-Z Recycling Guide** as your year-round guide to recycling everything from Appliances to Zippers: [www.ecocycle.org/a-zguide](http://www.ecocycle.org/a-zguide)





# Don't forget to recycle all of these holidays leftovers!



## Batteries

RECYCLE AT THESE LOCATIONS ONLY,  
NOT in curbside bins

### Rechargeable Batteries:

- Boulder County Hazardous Materials Management Facility
- Longmont Waste Diversion Center

### Alkaline Batteries:

- Check listings at [ecocycle.org/a-zguide](http://ecocycle.org/a-zguide)



## Electronics & Appliances

RECYCLE AT THESE LOCATIONS:

- CHaRM (fees apply)
- with a responsible company listed here: [ecocycle.org/a-zguide/electronics](http://ecocycle.org/a-zguide/electronics)

Disposing of electronics in the trash is illegal in Colorado.



## Holiday String Lights & Extension Cords

RECYCLE AS SCRAP METAL AT THESE LOCATIONS ONLY (no fee), NOT in curbside bins

- CHaRM
- Nederland Transfer Station and Recycling Center
- Longmont Waste Diversion Center in specially-marked cart during staffed hours
- Allenspark Drop-Off Center

Attached light bulbs are OK. Please bundle cords & tie with the loose end so they don't get caught in machinery.



## Food Scraps

COMPOST in curbside bins and at:

- CHaRM; Fees apply. Visit [ecocycle.org/charm](http://ecocycle.org/charm) for details.
- Longmont Waste Diversion Center

## Cooking Oil

RECYCLE AT THESE LOCATIONS ONLY – NOT in curbside bins:

- CHaRM; \$3 facility fee applies
- Longmont Waste Diversion Center



## Holiday Cards

REUSE cards as next year's gift tags or place-setting cards.

RECYCLE in curbside bins and drop-off centers. NO cards embossed with foil or other non-paper material. NO non-paper items such as ribbons, photos or photo paper.

## Dark Envelopes

NOT RECYCLABLE, OK IN COMPOST

Dark-colored envelopes such as reds and greens are not recyclable. White/light-colored paper envelopes are OK to recycle curbside.



## Plastic Bags

Includes grocery/checkout bags, dry-cleaner bags and Ziploc-style bags  
RECYCLE AT THESE LOCATIONS ONLY, NOT in curbside bins:

- CHaRM (Boulder); \$3 facility fee applies
- Longmont Waste Diversion Center
- Participating Grocery Stores; Find locations at [ecocycle.org/a-zguide](http://ecocycle.org/a-zguide).

**Bags must be clean, dry and empty.**  
NO tape. Plastic bags are NOT recyclable in curbside bins. Visit [ecocycle.org/charm](http://ecocycle.org/charm) for details.



## #6 White Block Foam

(aka Styrofoam®)

RECYCLE AT THESE LOCATIONS ONLY, NOT in curbside bins:

- CHaRM (Boulder); \$3 facility fee applies
- Longmont Waste Diversion Center

This is the material typically used to package computers, TVs, wine, etc. NO food-grade foam (to-go containers, meat trays, egg cartons, disposable cups, etc.), moisture, tape, packing peanuts (see listing), bubble wrap (see listing), bendable foam, any foam other than #6, or any color other than white.



## Wrapping Paper

for a limited time only in BOULDER & LONGMONT: Dec 26–Jan 31

RECYCLE AT THESE LOCATIONS ONLY (no fee), NOT in curbside bins:

- Boulder County Recycling Center in the bin marked "Wrapping Paper"
- CHaRM in the bin marked "Compost"
- Longmont Waste Diversion Center in the bin marked "Wrapping Paper"

**Please do not put wrapping paper in with single-stream recycling.**

This material will be accepted for a limited time, as it is a very low-grade material and normally considered a contaminant in the recycling bin because of its high clay and ink content and low fiber content. NO metallic wrapping paper, ribbons, bows, ornaments, tissue paper, fluorescent or dark paper, or wrapping paper covered with tape.



## Paper Shopping Bags & Cardboard Boxes

RECYCLE curbside or drop-off centers. Large staples & shiny graphics OK. REMOVE non-paper handles (string, etc), metal grommets.

## Packing Peanuts

NOT RECYCLABLE, REUSE ONLY, take to packing & shipping store, find locations at [ecocycle.org/a-zguide](http://ecocycle.org/a-zguide).

## Bubble Wrap

RECYCLE AT CHaRM ONLY, NOT in curbside bins.

## Tissue Paper

COMPOST in curbside bins and at these locations:

- CHaRM (fees apply)
  - Longmont Waste Diversion Center
- NO glitter or other non-paper items.

## Foam Wrapping Sheets

RECYCLE AT CHaRM (Boulder); \$3 facility fee applies. Visit [ecocycle.org/charm](http://ecocycle.org/charm) for details.

## Drop-off Center Info:

**Boulder County Recycling Center**  
1901 63rd St., Boulder; Open 24 hours

**Boulder County Hazardous Materials Management Facility (HMMF)**  
1901 63rd St., enter at the Boulder County Recycling Center, follow signs  
Open Wed–Sat, 8:30am–4pm

**Eco-Cycle/City of Boulder CHaRM: Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials**  
6400 Arapahoe Rd., Boulder  
Co-located with ReSource  
Mon–Sat, 9am–5pm; Closed Sundays  
Fees apply for some materials. For a full list and prices, visit [www.ecocycle.org/charm](http://www.ecocycle.org/charm)

**Longmont Waste Diversion Center**  
For residents only. Bring your ID and a recent utility bill to show you are a City of Longmont trash subscription customer.  
140 Martin St., Longmont  
Staffed hours: Mon–Sat, 7:30am–4:45pm  
Closed Sundays, Dec 25 and Jan 1.  
[www.longmontcolorado.gov](http://www.longmontcolorado.gov)  
[www.ecocycle.org/yourcommunity/longmont](http://www.ecocycle.org/yourcommunity/longmont)

**Allenspark Transfer Station & Recycling Drop-off Center**  
County Rd. 84 & State Hwy. 7.  
Open Sun, Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm;  
Closed Tues & Thurs



## Tree Recycling

See listings below to learn where to recycle a tree in your community.

Please be sure to remove all tinsel, lights, stands, etc. Do not leave other materials like garlands, wreaths, or trash.

**Boulder County/City of Boulder**  
Yard Waste and Wood Drop-off Center  
[westerndisposal.com](http://westerndisposal.com); Curbside collection also available. 303-444-2037

**Erie**  
[erieco.gov](http://erieco.gov), 303-926-2887

**Lafayette**  
[cityoflafayette.com](http://cityoflafayette.com), 303-661-1306

**Louisville**  
[louisvilleco.gov](http://louisvilleco.gov), 303-335-4735

**Longmont**  
[longmontcolorado.gov](http://longmontcolorado.gov), 303-651-8416

**Superior**  
[superiorcolorado.gov/community/trash-recycling](http://superiorcolorado.gov/community/trash-recycling), 303-499-3675

More tips and resources for making your holidays green at [www.ecocycle.org/holidayguide](http://www.ecocycle.org/holidayguide)



## Got Recycling Questions?

A-Z Recycling Guide: [ecocycle.org/a-zguide](http://ecocycle.org/a-zguide)

Email: [recycle@ecocycle.org](mailto:recycle@ecocycle.org)

Eco-Cycle Recycling Hotline: 303-444-6634

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