

# CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

## FACT SHEET

### HOLIDAY WASTE REDUCTION IDEAS



#### *Reduce, Reuse, Recycle*

Most of us have heard the phrase, “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle”, but many people tend to forget about the first two, and focus solely on recycling. While recycling is a great and effective option, waste reduction and reuse of materials should be considered first. In fact, it is estimated that Americans generate an additional **one million tons** of household waste per week during the holiday season. This holiday season keep these waste reduction and reuse tips in mind:



#### **REDUCE**

- Use reusable metal baking trays rather than disposable aluminum.
- If possible, do not use plastic utensils and plastic dinnerware for your parties.
- Take reusable cloth bags on shopping trips. Thousands of bags end up in our landfills during the holidays. If you do use paper bags or plastic bags, recycle them when you no longer need them.
- Before you recycle all of those gift catalogs, take a minute to pick out the ones you do not want to receive anymore. Call their toll-free numbers now and ask to get off their mailing list.



#### **REUSE**

- Before opening wrapped packages, set a box aside to collect the reusable ribbons, bows and other package decorations.
- Most gift boxes can be flattened and reused throughout the year for other items.
- Put this year’s Holiday Cards away to cut up and use as tags for next year’s gifts.
- Set aside a large box or bag to collect the torn gift wrap. If there are large uncrumpled pieces of wrap, consider using them for wrapping future gifts.
- Don’t forget about donation programs after the holidays for clothes, small appliances and electronics.
- Don’t use gift boxes. Wrap your gifts with recycled wrapping paper or place in reusable gift bags.



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**FACT SHEET**

**Holiday Waste  
Reduction Ideas**

**RECYCLE**

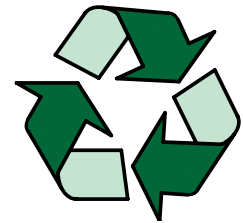
In Plymouth Township you can place all of your paperboard and boxboard as well as your corrugated cardboard in your green recycling cart. Below are additional items which can be placed in your cart for recycling.



***Paper bags, boxes, etc.***



***Tin, Steel, Aluminum Cans & Cookware***



***Glass Bottles & Jars***



***Plastics numbered 1, 2, 4, 5,7  
Marked, Ridgid Plastics***



***Catalogs, junk mail, etc.***

