

## Did you know?

Every year, 2.65 billion holiday cards are sold in the U.S., enough to fill a football stadium field 10 stories high!

If every family wrapped just 3 presents in re-used materials, it would save enough paper to cover 45,000 football fields!\*



*\*Source: Office of Recycling and Solid Waste Management, Medical University of South Carolina*

Americans produce as much as 1 million tons of extra waste – including food waste – every week between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. **Remember the Transfer Station's food diversion program – bring your food leftovers/food scraps or compost at home**

## Easy ways to save money & the environment while celebrating the Holidays

### Greens & trees

- If you buy a cut tree, recycle it. **One Option: The goats at Dandelion Hill Farm, 204 Hulett Hill Road, off Hewins Street, would enjoy feasting on your fresh, green tree. No wreaths or tabletop displays. Go up the short driveway & drop your tree by the greenhouse. Please remove ornaments, garlands & tinsel.**

*This sheet, from the Town of Lee's Green Committee, has been updated for Sheffield residents by your recycling coordinator.*

### Wrapping "paper" tips

- Brown paper bags stamped or colored
- Comics & magazines; old maps & posters
- Children's artwork
- Leftover wallpaper; brown paper bags
- Fabric & tablecloths; Boxes & baskets
- Homemade wrapping paper
- Cups & mugs

### Holiday cards made from

- Used cards, postcards, or nature photos
- Calendar pictures
- Homemade cards using recycled paper

### Alternative gift ideas

- **Donate** in the name of a family member/ friend to a cause they support
- **Re-gift an unused item or gift certificate**
- **Check out thrift stores**, used bookstores, & used music stores for finds. Don't forget the Swap Shop.
- **Give tickets** or gift certificates to anything, including takeout meals
- **Give someone a membership** to an organization they support
- **Create a scrapbook**
- **Make something homemade** – cookies, fudge, a dinner, homemade scarf, mittens, special dog/cat treats
- **Give time** – zoom / phone call / visit
- **Give an errand or service**, like food shopping, doing nails, or taking the dog for walks

## What Can I Recycle?

### YES, please recycle:

- **Paper shopping bags** - rope & plastic handles are acceptable
- **Gift tissue paper** - no metallics or glitter
- **Gift wrap/gift bags** - no metallics or glitter
- **Greeting cards** - no foil or wire
- **Paperboard gift boxes**
- **Corrugated cardboard boxes**
- **Catalogs**
- **String lights** – must be in a box with lid; Electronics container. **NEW!**

### But NO, can't recycle:

- **Ribbons, bows, tinsel**
- **Anything with Metallics / glitter**
- **Packing peanuts or Styrofoam blocks**
- **Plastic blister packaging** from toys or electronics; cards with batteries

### The New Mantra:

**RETHINK** - Choices  
**REFUSE** - Single Use  
**REDUCE** - Consumption  
**REUSE** – Everything  
**REFILL** – Containers  
**REFURBISH** - Old Stuff  
**REPAIR** - Before Replacing  
**REPURPOSE** - Be Creative!  
**RECYCLE** - Last Option  
**... and repeat**