



## Recycling Authority December 2020

20000 West Eight Mile Road | Southfield  
248-208-2270 | [www.rrrasoc.org](http://www.rrrasoc.org)



### Green Your Gifts

The holiday season is often called the best time of the year but it is also the most waste-filled time of the year. From Thanksgiving to New Year's, the amount of waste generated increases by 25%.

We know it can be hard to think environmentally with the chaos (or joy) of the holidays so we've put together some gift tips to help you have a "green" holiday season.



#### Wrapping Gifts

Wrapping paper is often used once and thrown away. What a waste, considering 50,000 trees are used each year to make wrapping paper. Instead of wrapping paper try these alternatives!

- pages torn from magazines
- old maps
- newspaper comics
- reusable tins, baskets or bags
- tea towels or scarves
- naked gifts (not wrapped at all!)

#### The Gift of Waste

It's easy to take steps on your end to reduce your waste, however not everyone has an environmental thumb. Here are some ideas to help with the gifts you receive.

- save tissue paper, gift bags and cards to reuse next year
- recycle wrapping paper that is free of glitter and metallic designs
- unwrap gifts carefully to reuse wrapping paper
- speak to the gift giver and ask for unwrapped gifts in the future

#### Gift Giving

Not what the season is suppose to be about but gifts are often the number one way to show your family and friends love during the holidays. Instead of just buying "things", have a less-waste theme to the gifts you give.

- make homemade goodies like bread, jam, cookies, freezer meals
- gift plants, trees or seed for next year's garden
- make yourself the gift for errands, chores, home repairs or babysitting
- give gifts that give all year long like memberships to a spa, zoo, or gym and passes for state parks, public transportation, or museum
- give experiences like museum trips, event tickets, dinner out, IOU beach outings
- buy gifts that are reusable like water bottles, bamboo silverware, canvas bags, nature guides and items made from recycled materials

Don't forget that in 2020 a "green" holiday also means buying local. Supporting local businesses is more important this year and many offer safe online ordering options with curbside pick up or delivery!

## The Naughty (Recycling) List

While the list of items accepted for recycling does not change with the holiday season, the following items can cause some confusion this time of year.

These items are **not accepted** for recycling at the curb or at the drop-off locations.



### WRAPPING ESSENTIALS

Plastic Gift Bags  
Tissue Paper  
Cellophane  
Metallic Paper  
Glitter Paper  
Bows  
Ribbons  
Tape

### COMMON HOLIDAY ITEMS

Electronics  
Batteries  
String Lights  
Christmas Trees  
Toys  
Ornaments  
Clothing  
Baskets

## Did You Know?

2.65 billion (yes, billion with a "b") Christmas and holiday cards are sold each year! To cut down on waste, here are a few tips.

- send an e-card instead
- buy cards made from recycled materials
- recycle cards you receive (cards with glitter or metallic designs are not recyclable)
- reuse old cards as gift tags



# RRRASOC Recycling Directory

Not sure what to do with stuff?

Visit [rrrasoc.org](http://rrrasoc.org) and use the Recycling Directory search bar to type in keywords and get recycling, composting, reuse or disposal instructions.

The searchable, intuitive format of the Recycling Directory provides RRRASOC specific information.

Also Available:

- Mobile App
  - From your App Store or Google Play, search for "Recycling Authority"
- Alexa Enabled Device
  - Simply say, "Alexa, enable Recycling Directory."

NOT SURE WHAT TO DO WITH  
**STUFF?**

COMPOST? RECYCLE? DONATE? TRASH?

GET CONNECTED TO FIND OUT!

MOBILE APP ONLINE SOCIAL E-NEWS

Visit [rrrasoc.org](http://rrrasoc.org) [facebook.com/rrrasoc](https://facebook.com/rrrasoc) Sign up for e-news at [rrrasoc.org](http://rrrasoc.org)

**RRRASOC | THE RECYCLING AUTHORITY**  
Farmington, Farmington Hills, Millford, Millford Township, Novi, South Lyon, Southfield, Walled Lake, Westland

RRRASOC - Recycling Authority | 248-208-2270 | [rrrasoc.org](http://rrrasoc.org)