

CONSERVATION CORNER

La Verne

'Tis the Season to Go Green

5 ALL STEPS CAN GO A LONG WAY TO REDUCE WASTE THIS SEASON

Nothing says "Happy Holidays" like lots and lots of food! Unfortunately, those holiday feasts often end with a lot of waste. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, the volume of household waste in the U.S. increases about 25 percent — That's one million extra tons.

Tips for reducing food waste:

- Shop Smart. Plan meals, use grocery lists, and avoid impulse buys.
- Buy exactly what you need. Buy loose produce instead of packaged, and buy grains, nuts, and spices from bulk bins.
- Practice "First In, First Out." When unpacking groceries, move older products to the front and place newer items in the back of the fridge/freezer/pantry.

2018 Holiday

Reminder:

There will be no service on:
 -Thanksgiving Day
 -Christmas Day
 -New Year's Day
 Collection will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week.

Recycle Your Tree after the holidays

Residents may recycle their trees during the first two weeks following Christmas on their scheduled collection day from

December 31 through January 7. Trees will be collected at the curb and may be picked up by special trucks. After the two week period, you may cut your tree and place the pieces in your green waste carts with the lids completely closed.

- Trees taller than six feet must be cut in half.
- Residents are asked to remove decorations, including tinsel, lights, ornaments and tree stands from their tree
- Residents are reminded that flocked trees cannot be recycled. They will be collected by the trash collector.

Got Cardboard?

Make room in your recycling container for all your recyclables by always breaking down cardboard boxes.



Are you in the clear on recycling contamination?

#recycling101

Nationally, on average, 25% of all items in recycling bins are actually trash. That's a big problem impacting recycling efforts around the world. You can help by following three simple rules:

1. Recycle empty plastic bottles, cans, paper and cardboard.
2. Keep foods and liquids out of your recycling.
3. Keep plastic bags out of your recycling.



Easy Ways to Reduce Waste During the Holidays



Buy Green and Recycle

Check product labels to determine whether an item is made from recycled materials. Buying recycled products encourages manufacturers to make more recycled-content products available.

Wrap Green

Consider earth friendly wrapping alternatives. Scarves, handkerchiefs, old maps, newspapers, children's artwork, repurposed gift bags and reusable containers like cookie tins or baskets all make great packaging. Replace ribbons and bows with natural evergreens, berries, dried flowers and keep them as decorations or compost them after the gifts are unwrapped.

Gift Green

Music lessons, concert tickets, museum passes, zoo memberships or even favors like babysitting make great zero waste gifts. Find out the gift recipient's favorite charity and make a donation in his or her honor, or commit to volunteering time with that organization.



Carpool with friends and family during the holidays

Spend quality time with friends and family by carpooling to holiday activities or consider taking public transportation to avoid traffic jams.

Be a Green Host

When entertaining, use washable utensils, plates, glasses, napkins and table linens. If you don't already have these items, consider renting rather than purchasing them. If you have leftover food, send it home with your guests or donate it to a local homeless shelter to avoid waste. Remember to place recycling containers at gatherings to invite guests to recycle empty bottles and cans.



RECYCLE OFTEN. RECYCLE RIGHT.

In Every Season...

Yes in Recycling Cart:



Please do not include:



Learn more at rorr.com



Remember that lights and batteries require special handling.

They should not be placed in the trash or recycling.



Come to City Hall to learn more about water conservation and pick up some free water saving devices (hose nozzle, shower head, shower timer, moisture meter, etc.)