



## 'Tis the Season to Recycle'

During the holiday season 25% more trash is added to the nation's landfills during the holiday season between Thanksgiving and New Years Day. All that uneaten food, gift wrappings and packaging adds an extra million tons of garbage to New Jersey landfills.

2.65 billion Christmas cards, wrapping paper, gift bags, and decorations end up in the nation's landfills. Cut your share of garbage during this holiday season by recycling along with your single stream recyclables your Christmas cards & envelopes, wrapping paper, tissue paper, gift bags and gift boxes (**only corrugated boxes**) as well as gift catalogs and junk mail. Bring used packaging peanuts and other packaging materials to a local mailing center. Try your local UPS Store [www.theupsstore.com](http://www.theupsstore.com) Plastic Loose Fill Council Packing Peanuts Hotline 800-828-2214 [www.loosefillpackaging.com](http://www.loosefillpackaging.com) Foam Pack Industries (foam blocks) 973-376-3700 [www.foampackindustries.com](http://www.foampackindustries.com) Mail Boxes ETC 800-828-2214. The average American receives more than 500 pieces of junk mail each year. That's about a tree for every household! You can halt the delivery of junk mail by calling the company that is sending the material or go to these websites: <http://www.dmachoice.org> or <http://the-dma.org> or [www.41pounds.org](http://www.41pounds.org)

Remember to recycle your old electronics such as televisions, cell phones, laptops, computers and their components, VCR's and DVD players, scanners, stereos and fax machines at the Ocean County Northern and Southern Recycling Centers. Also check with your local public works to see if these items are accepted. After the holidays call and find local charities and nonprofits and donate the gifts or decorations that you don't want or need. You can also sell, give away or trade household items on the Ocean County 2Good2Waste Exchange <http://www.2Good2Waste.org/oceancountynj> 'Tis better to give than to receive'.

Don't forget to recycle your Christmas tree after the holidays. Programs will be listed in the paper or announced on local radio or posted on your town's website. The Ocean County Northern and Southern Recycling Centers will also accept Christmas trees during the holidays. Early January this year Christmas trees were used to rebuild the dunes at Island Beach State Park as well as many other beaches along the Jersey shore after super storm Sandy!

For more ideas on waste reduction during the holidays and year round go to:

NJ Department of Environmental Protection

<http://www.state.nj.us/dep/dshw/recycling/holidaywaste.html>

Earth911 <http://earth911.com/>

Ocean County Department of Solid Waste Management <http://www.co.ocean.nj.us/recycle>

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