

# Holiday Recycling Guide

## String lights



- Find an online repair tutorial or give away string lights. Otherwise, take lights to a drop-off recycling center for recycling. Find a drop-off center near you with [WashingtonCountyRecycles.com/WTRW](http://WashingtonCountyRecycles.com/WTRW)
- Do not put string lights in your mixed recycling bin. Anything long and stringy gets tangled up in the sorting equipment, causing delays and creating hazards for the workers who run the equipment.

## Wrapping paper, cards & bows



- Reuse boxes, paper, and bows.
- Wrap gifts in reusable materials like a scarf or tea towels.
- Consider buying recycled-content gift wrap or make your own gift wrap with newspaper, magazine pages, paper bags, or old maps.
- Paperboard boxes, wrapping paper and cards can go in mixed recycling if they are not metallic-looking or lined with plastic or aluminum foil. A small amount of glitter is ok. Tape is ok.
- Fabric and plastic ribbons and bows go in the garbage, not the recycling.



## Cardboard boxes and packing materials



- Put flattened cardboard boxes in mixed recycling. If you live in an apartment or condo community where you share recycling services, flattening boxes is especially important to prevent overflowing containers and to let your neighbors recycle, too!
- Remove all packing material from boxes like block styrofoam and plastic wrapping. These do not go in the mixed recycling bin. Put in the garbage or take to a drop-off recycling center.

## Natural trees, wreaths and swag



- Remove all wire, decorations, lights, tinsel and metal frames.
- If you have yard debris collection service, greenery and trees may be included. Cut into pieces as needed so the lid can close and materials can fall freely from bin when collected. Do not put artificial trees or wreaths in the yard debris bin.
- If you do not have yard debris collection service, find a nearby collection event or facility with [WashingtonCountyRecycles.com/WTRW](http://WashingtonCountyRecycles.com/WTRW)
- Flocked trees? Contact the facility, collection event or collection company to see if they accept them.

## Overflow garbage and recycling



- Contact your collection company to determine if additional fees apply, how to request collection of extra garbage, yard debris or bulky waste.
- Find your collection company at [WashingtonCountyRecycles.com/GRD](http://WashingtonCountyRecycles.com/GRD) or call 503-846-3605.

Look up how to reduce, reuse, recycle and properly dispose of hundred of items with the Garbage and Recycling Day app at: [WashingtonCountyRecycles.com/GRD](http://WashingtonCountyRecycles.com/GRD)

