



# Reduce, Reuse and Recycle during the Holidays!

Keep this chart as a handy reference.

[www.HowardCountyRecycles.org](http://www.HowardCountyRecycles.org)

Item	Reduce	Reuse	Recycle
<b>Gift boxes</b>	Use cereal, shoe or other boxes to hold gifts.	Gift boxes flatten neatly for easy storage and reuse.	Recycle curbside or at the Alpha Ridge Residential Convenience Center.
<b>Bows and ribbons</b>	Use last year's or get creative with yarn, dried flowers, etc.	Save in boxes to prevent bows from getting smashed.	Not recyclable. Please reuse or share with others.
<b>Wrapping paper</b>	Use comics, maps, posters or cloth wrapping (a scarf can be an extra gift and wrapping too).	Open gifts carefully so paper can be reused. Fold neatly and store. Save gift bags and use them next year.	Recycle curbside or at the Alpha Ridge Residential Convenience Center. Gift bags, foil or plastic coated papers are not recyclable.
<b>Greeting cards</b>	Save postage costs and paper by using online or post card greetings.	Last year's cards can be made into gift tags.	Recycle curbside or at the Alpha Ridge Residential Convenience Center.
<b>Packing peanuts</b>	Request minimal packaging and use paper packaging materials that are recyclable.	Most commercial mailing services will accept peanuts for reuse.	Not recyclable in Howard County. Please reuse.
<b>Packing block Styrofoam</b>	Request minimal packaging and use paper packaging materials that are recyclable.	Reuse for packing or in craft projects. Contact local mailing companies for recycling.	Recycle #6 Styrofoam at Alpha Ridge Landfill (2350 Marriottsville Rd)
<b>Mail order catalogs</b>	Request removal from mailing list at time of purchase.	Share with friends and neighbors if interested.	Recycle curbside or at the Alpha Ridge Residential Convenience Center.
<b>Live Christmas trees</b>	Decorate a large houseplant instead of cutting a tree.	Reuse a "fake" tree or decorate a potted tree.	Recycle (compostable) if all tinsel, ornaments, lights etc. are removed. <b>Flocked trees are not recyclable.</b> Call or see website for drop-off locations and curbside information.