

Club Earth 911

How to Help Save Our Planet: Trash to Treasures

By Rob B. Grade 3

The holiday season is full of good times with friends and family, with lots of food, treat, gifts, decorations, and more. But have you ever thought about how much trash gets thrown away during this time of year? What happens to wrappers on all the candy you get, the food scraps from your turkey dinner, the bows and gift wrapping from presents, the dried-up wreaths and Christmas trees? Most of it gets thrown out, and this makes for a lot of trash.

You can help our environment this holiday season by using less stuff and turning trash into treasures for your friends and family. Here are a few tips to follow, and you will save money too:

- Buy decorations that can be used more than one time.
- Make a gift bag by sewing together scraps of fabric or decorating an old pillowcase.
- Look for gifts or treats with little or no packaging.
- Look for rechargeable batteries for holiday gifts requiring battery power.
- Buy gifts made with recycled materials.
- Buy a “live” holiday tree that can be planted in your yard in the spring.
- Place your “used” tree in your yard to provide cover for rabbits and birds during the winter.
- Turn your tree into mulch to help make your garden in the summer.
- Put your old, unwanted dress clothes and shoes in a decorated box and give it to your little sister or brother as a “dress up” kit or for a costume.
- Give your friends crayons, pencils, sidewalk chalk, and other art supplies instead of candy.
- Give a gift certificate to a favorite store or ice cream shop.
- Save gift boxes, gift bags, bows, and ribbons to use in the future.
- Make gift tags from used holiday cards.
- Make a luminary from a plastic milk jug.
- Make origami ornaments from used wrapping paper.
- Recycle and use whatever you can.

Rotary International/EarlyAct, Rotary Clubs of Media, Glen Riddle, Glen Mills, and the Indian Lane PTG sponsor club EARTH 911.

LET'S MAKE EVERY DAY EARTH DAY!

