

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY



America Recycles Day (ARD) is celebrated every year on November 15. The whole point of this day is to recycle things, to buy recycled products, and to learn more about the recycling process. Participating in ARD can be a great learning experience and can also help you clear out some clutter. Make recycling a normal thing to do in your household. Visit this link for some suggestions for getting involved in America Recycles Day:

<http://www.wikihow.com/Celebrate-America-Recycles-Day>

CHRISTMAS TREE & DECORATION SWAP

Saturday, November 26 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Rusk County Visitor's Center

This year when you're getting your picture taken with Santa, why not swap out your old Christmas decorations for new-to-you ones? This way you'll save money and have more for the holidays. Bring your old decorations and artificial trees to the Visitor's Center on Saturday between 8:30 and 11 or drop them off at the Rusk County Recycling Office at the Courthouse the week prior. **Items must be in good working condition.** Feel free to browse the items and take whatever you can use. All items left at the end of the event will be donated to the Shop with a Cop program. Please call Charmaine at 715-532-2167 if you have any questions.

NEW WEBSITE!

Want to keep up with the most current recycling information? Then visit <http://rusk.uwex.edu/recycling>. A new acceptable items list is available, updated recycling guide, resource information, current and past newsletters and much more! Kids, there is a section just for you too! Keep checking back as more information is loaded frequently.

***If you've got some great recycling ideas** or would like to see something else posted on the website, let me know.*





COMPOST BINS ON SALE

November 15th until gone!

\$15 plus tax

They make great Christmas presents!

Looking for a festive way to recycle your holiday debris? Start with a paper plate with the center cut out and decorate it with left over pieces of gift wrap, tissue paper, ribbon and more.

Materials

- Paper plate
- Gift wrapping, ribbons, tissue paper
- Glue or glue stick

Instructions

1. Cut out the center of the paper plate (we traced around a CD).
2. Cover the plate with glue (an older child may prefer using a glue stick), then have your child decorate it with leftover pieces of gift wrap, tissue paper, ribbon, and more.
3. Top hang the wreath, tape a loop of ribbon on the back.



Sustainable Holiday Ideas

- Use old cards as gift tags or tree ornaments
- Replace your old incandescent lights with LED's. They use 90% less energy!
- Wrap your gifts with old maps, crossword puzzles, posters, sheet music, even towels and napkins or give gifts in reusable bags.
- Give baked goods as presents rather than purchasing gifts. They are more thoughtful and will save money and reduce the need to remember to get gift receipts.
- Donate to a charity in honor of someone rather than trying to figure out what they want or need.
- Consider purchasing used decorations from Connections. They have lots of Christmas items and you will help raise money for a good cause.
- Rather than mailing cards to people you only talk to once a year, give them a call! There's less waste, it's more personal and who knows - maybe you'll talk more than once a year now!

Season's Green-ings from the Rusk County Recycling Department!

Recycle electronics instead of trashing them this holiday season

The holidays often bring new electronic toys—big-screen TVs, smartphones, laptops and more. When you find that shiny new gadget under the tree, you may want to get rid of some of the old electronic gathering dust.

Electronics contain harmful materials like mercury, lead, cadmium and other heavy metals, as well as chemical flame retardants. When disposed of improperly, these pollutants can pose a risk to human and environmental health. Electronics also contain valuable, reusable materials, including steel, plastic, gold, silver, copper and glass. Properly recycling these materials reduces the need for new raw materials. Under Wisconsin's electronics recycling law, many electronics cannot be put in the trash.

The following electronics are banned from landfills and incinerators

- Computers (desktop, laptop, netbooks and tablet computers)
- Desktop printers (including those that scan, fax and/or copy)
- Computer monitors
- Televisions
- DVD players, VCRs and DVRs
- Fax machines
- Computer mice and keyboards
- Other computer accessories such as hard drives, speakers, flash drives and modems
- Cell phones



Electronic waste is the fastest growing part of waste in the United States. There are millions of pounds of electronic waste in Wisconsin alone, so make sure you recycle yours.

Many stores have product stewardship programs where they will take your old electronics for free and maybe even give you a gift card for them. Shop around and ASK the stores what recycling services they offer. Also make sure you buy quality items that will last. It might cost a little more but it will save you money in the long run.

For more information about E-Cycle Wisconsin, including a full list of collection sites, see <http://dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin>. For questions, contact Rusk County Recycling at 715-532-2167.

The Holidays are a great time to make the switch to rechargeable batteries. They might cost more up front but in the long run you will save \$, take advantage of renewable energy and they're better for the environment. Did you know that the Recycling Dept. takes old rechargeable batteries year round for free?

Want to stay off the naughty list? RECYCLE