

Decor, shopping, dinners, parties, gifts and wrappings.

Discover the environmental impact of holiday celebrations and how to make it Sustainable

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December is a time of celebration and festivity, and there are many vibrant and unique ways of observing this holiday. While the winter holiday season brings cheer for most people, it also brings huge amount of waste to the landfill, harmful to the environment.

Here are some environmentally-smart tips for a less wasteful holiday this year.



CHRISTMAS TREE

Many of us may have started pondering which tree to opt for. For the most eco-friendly, it's best to go for a real tree. Head out to the local nursery to buy Araucaria, Juniper, Cypress, or a Poinsettia plant which are most popular choices and look like pine trees. You could also use one of your own house plants instead of buying one.





ECO DECOR

Buy reusable items that you can reuse and do your best to use your old decors each year. Craft a Christmas themed bunting made of round citrus pieces. Get the whole family involved in making a wreath made out of twigs. Consider switching to LED, rechargeable-battery-powered lights. You can find light eco-friendly, and smoke-free candles made from soy, natural vegetable-based wax or beeswax in your neighborhood. Add some costume jewelry, beads, ribbons, shells, pine-cones or feathers into tree ornaments. Make paper chains or Origami flowers from newspapers. Cut fabric or cardboards into oversized stars.



AVOID FOOD WASTE

Let your guests know about curbing food waste before, during, and after your get together. At the get together, use signage to educate attendees on your sustainability efforts. Leftovers can be shared with the vulnerable individuals locally so that they may benefit from the unwanted waste or drop them at a food bank. At the end of the get together communicate what was the leftover quantity, what did you do with it and what was the food waste quantity.



SEGREGATE WASTE

Let your invitation also request guests to bring their own bottle of water and napkins. Use reusable plates and cutlery far as possible. Avoid all sort of plastic materials. Set up recycling bins, make sure your guests know where to dispose of their items, and how to do so properly at the beginning of the party – it could be a great icebreaker and with the festive spirit abound, friends & family may be open to ways they can reduce their environmental impact.







ECO CONSCIOUS GIFTS

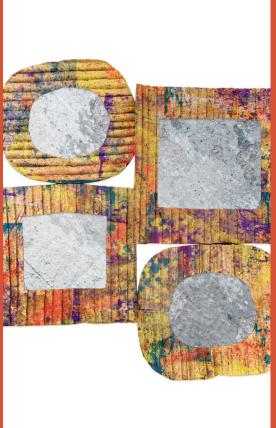
Avoid buying too much stuff that will end up being thrown out or unused. Instead, make every gift count by purchasing things with value, purpose and meaning. Look for gifts with an environmental message: a nature book, a refillable steel bottle, canvas tote bag, a basket with home-baked cookies, bread or jams, pickles, chutneys, a potted indoor plant. Ones that don't create any waste at all: an experience to share with your loved ones, a concert or movie tickets, dinner at a restaurant, or vouchers from book stores, department stores, and health spas. You can also gift memberships and subscriptions to library's or magazines.



WRAPPING

Wrapping paper is often used once and thrown away. Try using colorful pages torn from magazines to wrap small gifts, and old maps or the Sunday times for larger boxes. Twine with a few twigs or jute rope to the package. You can ditch paper altogether and wrap presents in fabric too.







UPCYCLE

Instead of mindlessly throwing things away, get creative and turn into something different. Jam jars make excellent candleholders, while empty fruit and vegetable containers are great for erminating seedlings and growing microgreens. Carton boxes can be used to stick your favorite holiday and family photos. Cut the photo in a tag shape and then punch the top to thread with a jute thread through the hole. Use the tags for gifts, as place card holders at the dining table or hang them on the Christmas tree.

Organo Et School

Organo Et School is the brainchild of team Organo. Organo was founded on the idea of environmentally conscious living and Organo Et School translates that idea into reality by educating and empowering schools, colleges, organizations and communities on the triple bottom line of sustainability. Organo et School aims at engaging individuals of today to stay connected with nature through workshops, live sessions and site visits.



Leading the change

We create an experiential learning environment for people to learn from.

Organo Et School educates people about the challenges of sustainable development and creates opportunities for them to use their creativity and knowledge to pioneer innovative solutions for themselves.

Learners develop a sense of place and belonging to their local community.

NURTURING A LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL STAKEHOLDERS WHERE INCLUSIVE HOLISTIC ECO-LIVING IS CELEBRATED

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