**Holiday Hints for a Green Christmas**

**Holiday Hints #1: Live Trees**

Live trees are expected to be in short supply this year. So an early holiday question: Christmas Trees, [**Live or Artificial?**](https://www.greenmatters.com/p/real-vs-fake-christmas-trees) Potted trees are an option [**provided you know how to care for them.**](https://www.richmondnursery.com/index.php/en/articles/gardening/item/132-christmas-trees)

**Holiday Hints #2: Sustainable Decorations**

The best decorations are legacy items which come out yearly... clearly sustainable. Pine boughs are festive and biodegradable. Use LED lighting or eco-friendly beeswax or soy candles. [**More hints available here.**](https://www.sustainablebabysteps.com/green-christmas)

**Holiday Hints #3: Alternative Gift Ideas**

Gifts don't need to be more stuff! Give the gift of services or experiences. Give things which are edible. Buy from local artisans. Re-gift or give second-hand - Download the Buy Nothing Project App in your area.

**Holiday Hints #4: Wrapping gifts is environmentally costly.**

Million of trees are sacrificed to produce paper, most of which is not recyclable due to added plastics, glitter, and dyes. [**Click HERE for lots of suggestions on reusable and eco-friendly ways to wrap your gifts!**](https://learn.eartheasy.com/guides/gift-wrapping-alternatives/)

**Holiday Hints #5: Food waste increases about 25% over the holidays.**

Pounds of food are prepared, left eaten, then thrown out. How to avoid this? First, plan well. Second, store food properly. Third, don't overdo serving sizes. Finally, use leftovers effectively, sharing with others, or freezing in casseroles and soups for future use.

[**​Read More HERE.**](https://blog.secondharvest.ca/2020/12/10/7-holiday-food-waste-tips-to-be-mindful-of-this-season/)