

LOW WASTE HOLIDAY TIPS

from Sustainable Mill Valley



DIY IDEAS

- Get crafty! Make a special ornament or wreath for family or friends - use pinecones, leaves and other beautiful natural elements to bring the outside inside.
- Save empty glass wine and glass water bottles to make candleholders, infused waters or to package homemade gifts.
- Use fabric scraps or pillowcases to wrap gifts! There are a lot of easy patterns for simple reusable gift bags too.
- Make your own food gifts for family and friends - cookies, sauerkraut, cake mixes in jars - there are so many great low waste ideas!
- Make your own candles in repurposed glass jars and scent them with especial oils.

GIFT GIVING

- Instead of a traditional 'more stuff' gift give the gift of a donation in a friend or family member's name to a great organization that they love. Avoid plastic gift cards!
- Looking for a great stocking stuffer? Pocket size reusable cutlery is perfect!
- Buy local and eliminate the need for packing materials and shipping while supporting local businesses.
- ReGift! Reduce consumption and clear out clutter at the same time.



CLIMATE IMPACT

- Rent a live tree or use a plant in home or yard to decorate instead of decorating a cut tree.
- Do holiday lights right to reduce energy consumption.

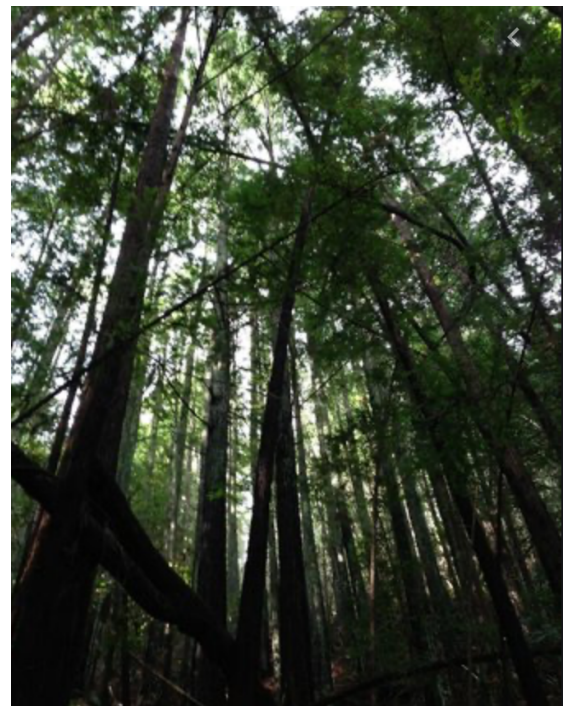
FOOD & STORAGE



- *Reducing your meat consumption could help reduce food-related greenhouse gas emissions by about one-third, according to The Guardian.*
- *Stick to fresh local unpackaged food whenever possible. Support local farms, local bakers and local beer and wine makers.*
- *Use glass jars and plastic free reusable containers to store leftovers without the waste of foil and plastic wrap.*

NATURE

- *Go outside and hike or bike.*



PROJECTS

- *Make your own dishwasher detergent, laundry detergent, deodorant or lip balm (and so much more) while you have some time off over the holidays.*
- *Make your own natural bath and body concoctions*
- *Get your pantry organized.*

