



Household Holiday Recycling Impacts Availability of Consumer Paper Goods

December 3, 2020

Republic Services braces for an influx of packaging waste as online shopping soars

PHOENIX, Dec. 3, 2020 /PRNewswire/ -- With consumers shopping online more than ever before, [Republic Services](#) is bracing for an influx of discarded packaging material during the holiday season and is asking consumers to make sure they are recycling materials correctly. There's significant need for recycled paper due to the unprecedented demand for household paper products and cardboard during the pandemic.

Experience the interactive Multichannel News Release here: <https://www.multivu.com/players/English/8683451-republic-services-household-holiday-recycling/>

US retail e-commerce sales are expected to jump nearly 36% this year, according to a recent eMarketer report, and the United States Postal Service expects significant volume increases in packages and mail this holiday season.

Consumers' recycling behaviors have a trickle-down effect, said Pete Keller, vice president of recycling and sustainability. "Proper recycling is more important than ever to help ensure a steady supply of recycled paper to manufacture toilet paper and other products during this critical pandemic period," he said. "Currently, there's unprecedented demand for cardboard and paper, and we always need aluminum and metal cans."

Household Waste Increases 25% During the Holidays

With all the gift giving, eating, drinking and decorating, American households each generate 25 percent more waste from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day, which is equivalent to producing 1,000 extra pounds of garbage. Keller said about 80% of holiday waste can be reused, re-purposed or recycled. He shared the following tips to help consumers recycle correctly.

- **DO:** Cardboard and paper boxes should be recycled along with metal food and beverage cans.
- **DON'T:** Curbside recycling programs can't process most packaging materials, including bubble wrap, cellophane, plastic film and bags, air pillows and foam packaging. If you can't reuse or donate these materials, put them in your waste container.
- **DO:** Only plain, glitter-free and non-laminated paper gift bags, wrapping paper and envelopes can be recycled. Fancy bags, cellophane wrapping paper and shiny bows are not recyclable. Save and reuse these materials next year.
- **DON'T:** Recycling should always stay separated and loose. Never bag or box your recyclables before placing them in the bin. Also, flattening cardboard boxes will save space in your recycling cart.
- **DO:** All recyclables must be empty, clean and dry before they go into the bin.

For more tips on holiday recycling, visit [RecyclingSimplified.com](https://www.RecyclingSimplified.com).

About Republic Services

Republic Services, Inc. is an industry leader in U.S. recycling and non-hazardous solid waste disposal. Through its subsidiaries, Republic's collection companies, transfer stations, recycling centers, landfills and environmental services provide effective solutions to make responsible recycling and waste disposal effortless for its customers across the country. Its 36,000 employees are committed to providing a superior experience while fostering a sustainable Blue Planet® for future generations to enjoy a cleaner, safer and healthier world. For more information, visit [RepublicServices.com](https://www.RepublicServices.com), or follow us at [Facebook.com/RepublicServices](https://www.facebook.com/RepublicServices), [@RepublicService](https://twitter.com/RepublicService) on Twitter and [@republic_services](https://www.instagram.com/republic_services) on Instagram.

'Tis the Season for Holiday Recycling

Gift Bags
Recycle or Reuse (if uncoated)
Toss or Reuse (if embellished)

Ribbons
Toss or Reuse

Boxes
Recycle or Reuse

Wrapping Paper
Recycle (if uncoated)
Toss (if glossy or embellished)

Bows
Toss or Reuse

Cellophane
Toss

Tissue Paper
Recycle

Enjoy your holidays and celebrate your responsible actions toward our planet!
Visit RecyclingSimplified.com and RepublicServices.com for more information.

Recycling *Simplified*



¿Qué reciclo cuando recibo un(as) ...

✓ SI

Altero de papel



¿Un sobre con empaque de protección?

Papel para envolver
Papel de periódico
Caja de cartón aplanado



¿Una caja de envío?

Cuentas
Tarjetas de papel
Sobre



¿Un sobre de papel?

Papel para envolver



¿Una bolsa de regalo?

Papel de regalo normal
Caja de regalo
Papel para envolver



¿Una caja de regalo envuelta?

⊘ NO

Burbujas de plástico
Anuncio de medios mixtos
Sobre con una ventanilla de plástico

Unos trocitos de espuma
Burbujas de plástico
Espuma de poliestireno
Paquete de plástico con aire

Tarjetas de papel con aluminio, brillo y/o adornos

Bolsa de regalo
Burbujas de plástico

Papel de regalo si tiene papel de aluminio, brillo o adornos.

Moño y Una cinta
Etiquetas
Burbujas de plástico

Recycling *Simplified*



Visite RecyclingSimplified.com para más información.



'Tis the Season

of new power tools, updated smartphones and the latest got-to-have toys! Be a responsible environmental steward by disposing of your electronics and batteries safely. Here's how:

Holiday Lights

Half the lights are burned out, so it's tempting to just throw the tangled strand into your waste cart and buy new next year, right? Not so fast. Those lights can't go to the landfill because they leak toxins into the ground. Check with your city to see if it has a drop-off program available. Or consider our Bulb & Battery Recycling Mail-Back Kits for responsible disposal.



Phones, Tablets & Computers

The updated tablet or the newest phone may be on your list this year, but don't just kick your old ones to curb. Literally... they are not recyclable curbside. If you put them in your recycling cart, they can damage the environment and start fires in the landfill! Recycle them via various big-box store drop-off locations and with Republic Services' Electronics Recycling Mail-Back Kits.

Battery-Operated Toys

Remove the batteries. If they still work, use them in something else. If they're dead, take them to a store that offers battery recycling, or purchase a mail-back recycling kit. Give the toy to someone else who might use it or take it to a thrift store.



Power Tools

Whether it plugs into an outlet or uses a battery, you shouldn't just toss dysfunctional power tools in the garbage. Hazardous material can end up in our ground water as a result. To dispose of tools safely, remove the batteries. Some brands allow free drop-off at certain manufacturer locations, or you can send the tools back via a mail-back recycling kit.

Enjoy your holidays and celebrate your responsible actions toward our planet! Visit RecyclingSimplified.com and RepublicServices.com for more information.

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We'll handle it from here.[®]

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