

## Republic Services' Recycling Advice Keeps You On Santa's "Nice" List

December 19, 2012 2:00 PM ET

PHOENIX, Dec. 19, 2012 /PRNewswire/ -- After weeks of shopping, decorating and wrapping presents, the big day is finally here. The kids tip-toe down the stairs to see what surprises Santa has brought for them. The gift unwrapping frenzy begins and in an instant, your beautiful masterpiece called Christmas Day turns into a room filled with piles and piles of crumpled wrapping paper, torn tissue paper and shredded boxes. While dad tries desperately to remove the parent-proof plastic ties on this year's hottest toy, Jinxy the cat is meowing in frustration as he tries to break free from the tinsel trap and bubble wrap. The kids have run off to play with their new toys and with a bow stuck to your forehead, you must now decide what to recycle or throw in the trash.

To help you decide what you can put in your residential recycling cart, Republic Services, the nation's second largest waste and recycling company, created its own "Naughty and Nice" list of holiday materials that may be recycled by your local recycling hauler—keeping you on Santa's "Nice" list. Regardless of which list an item falls on, Santa suggests that you consider reusing it first.

### ALWAYS NICE

- **Boxes** – gift, shoe and shipping style
- **Wrapping paper** – plain or sparkly
- **Tissue paper**
- **Holiday cards & envelopes** – without embellishments
- **Gift bags** - paper

### ALWAYS NAUGHTY

- **Bubble wrap**
- **Ribbons & bows**
- **Gift bags** – laminated, coated or dyed
- **Cellophane**
- **Packing peanuts** – Polystyrene foam
- **Anything on the Christmas tree**
- **Your Aunt Edna's fruit cake**

### ON SANTA'S WATCH LIST

Some items that are recyclable individually are not recyclable when combined with other recyclable materials. Recycling companies need materials in the purest form possible; any cross contamination of material (metal and paper together; paper and plastic) make it difficult and more expensive to recycle.

**Toy containers** - For example, toy containers made of heavy cardboard that surround a plastic container are not recyclable unless the cardboard is separated from the plastic. That means the plastic window on the box of your favorite doll or action figure.

**Sticky gift tags** – They are not recyclable by themselves, but are acceptable if they are on an envelope or wrapping paper.

**Christmas trees** – While unadorned trees are recyclable, they cannot be placed in residential recycling carts. Customers should always check with their local waste service provider for collection times and pick-up instructions.

Always check with your local waste and recycling company to see what is on its *Naughty and Nice* recycling list.

### About Republic Services

Republic Services, Inc. is an industry leader in the U.S. non-hazardous solid waste industry. Through its subsidiaries, Republic's collection companies, transfer stations, recycling centers and landfills focus on providing reliable environmental services and solutions for commercial, industrial, municipal and residential customers. Republic and its employees believe in protecting the planet and applying common sense solutions to customers' waste and recycling challenges. For more information, visit the Republic website at [republicservices.com](http://republicservices.com).

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