



NEWS

THE REPUBLIC SERVICES “NAUGHTY AND NICE LISTS” FOR RECYCLING HOLIDAY DECORATIONS AND GIFT WRAPPINGS

We see you when you’re recycling-We see you when you’re not!

TYNGSBORO—December 22, 2011—Even if you’ve been a good recycler all year long, what to do with holiday decorations and gift wrap may present a challenge. Is wrapping paper recyclable? What about Christmas tree ornaments? Tinsel?

To answers those questions, Republic Services (NYSE:RSG) has its own “naughty and nice” list of recyclable holiday materials.

NICE (recyclable)

Gift boxes
Tissue paper
Shoe boxes
Christmas tree
Holiday cards/envelopes
Gift bags (if paper)
Wrapping paper (consider reusing)

NAUGHTY (not recyclable)

Bubble wrap (consider reusing)
Foam peanuts
Ribbon and bows (consider reusing)
Anything on the tree
Sticky gift labels
Gift bags if coated, laminated, dyed

“Wrapping paper used to be on the *Naughty* list because it is often dyed and laminated and may contain non-paper additives, such as gold and silver coloring, glitter and plastics, making it difficult to recycle,” said Kurt Blascoe, director of materials marketing and recycling for Republic. “However, we now have paper mill customers who can take this product and make new paper products from it.”

Ribbons and bows cannot be recycled because they aren't paper products. Christmas trees must be stripped of all decorations (tinsel, lights, bells, ornaments, etc.) before the tree can be mulched or composted.

The Company suggests that there are creative and practical ways to reuse items that are not recyclable. For example, use sustainable packing materials when packing and sending gifts. Instead of purchasing new foam peanuts, use shredded newspaper or even popcorn. Foam peanuts are made from polystyrene and are usually not recyclable. If you receive foam peanuts in packages, consider reusing them for later shipping.

For those holiday greeting cards you receive this season, recycle paperboard and paper envelopes. If you just can't bear to toss them in the bin, use them to make a festive gift tag.

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

More clever ideas for recycling and reusing holiday materials can be found at:

http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/2454324/how_to_save_store_and_recycle_christmas.html?cat=57

<http://socyberty.com/holidays/10-ways-to-recycle-christmas-wrapping-paper/>

<http://www.recyclebank.com/live-green/lifestyle-cat/431>

About Republic Services

Republic Services, Inc. provides recycling and solid waste collection, transfer and disposal services in the United States and Puerto Rico. The Company's various operating units, including collection companies, transfer stations, recycling centers and landfills, are focused on providing reliable environmental services and solutions for commercial, industrial, municipal and residential customers. For more information, visit the Republic Services website at www.republicservices.com.

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