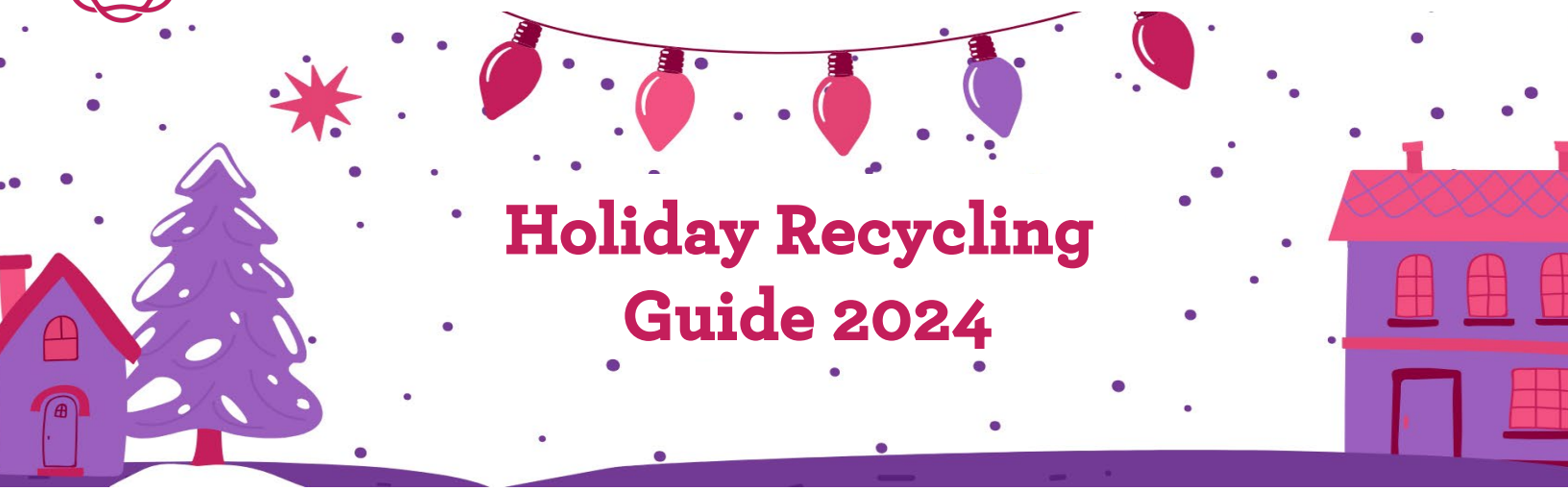




# Holiday Recycling Guide 2024

Did you know that during the festive period from Thanksgiving to New Year, residential waste increases by 25%? With the hustle and bustle of the holidays, it's easy to overlook our impact on the planet. This guide will explore commonly used items and practices that can reduce our waste during this holiday season.

## HOLIDAY GUIDE TOPICS

- **Recycle Coach**
- **Green Gifts**
- **Making Room for The New Stuff**
- **Electronics**
- **Batteries**
- **Clothing/Textiles**
- **Holiday Lights**
- **Christmas Trees**



# Recycle Coach

Recycle Coach is a search tool and mobile app designed to help residents in St. Louis County find out how to properly dispose of their items. It provides locations to donate items and locates nearby recycling centers. Simply enter the name of the item in the search bar on our website and Recycle Coach will handle the rest. You can also download the app, which allows you to take photos of items and get instant information about where to donate or recycle!



To download Recycle Coach scan the QR code!



## Find out where to drop off:

- Old toys
- Batteries
- Packaging material
- Wrapping paper
- Christmas lights
- Electronics
- Paint

# Green Gifts

## Give a gift to help someone help the environment:

- Smart plug strips (energy-saving power strip)
- Rain barrels
- Compost bins
- Energy-saving light fixtures
- Cloth napkins
- Diaper service for new parents
- Cloth shopping bags

## Gift an experience.

Gifts don't have to be a physical item. Gifts can be anything, such as a gift card, donation to a charity, or a ticket to an event. Here are some ideas below:



- **St. Louis Bicycle Works**

Sign-up a child up for a St. Louis Works class. Works teach kids how to ride and repair bikes. Additionally, kids will earn their own bike, helmet, light and lock. St. Louis Bicycle Works also features a bike shop, where anyone can purchase a fully refurbished bike. Learn more about them below:

<https://www.bworks.org/>

- **Sign-up for an experience**

St. Louis and many other cities offer classes where you can enroll that special someone. Some examples of these classes include:

- Cooking
- Painting
- Dance

- **Green Dining Alliance**

Get a gift card to a restaurant that participates in the green dining challenge. The green dining alliance works with restaurants to reduce their environmental impact by completing an on-site audit that evaluates all areas of operations. Learn more about them below:

<https://greendiningalliance.org/find-a-restaurant/>

- **Perennial**

Perennial is a non-profit community workshop, offering classes on creatively reusing items. They also sell repurposed home goods and eco-friendly project supplies. Learn more about them below:

<http://perennialstl.org/>

# Wrapping and Packaging

## Plan For Recycling!

- All non-foil wrapping paper and gift boxes are recyclable in your curbside bin.

## Plan For Reuse!

- Gift wrap, bags, boxes, and bows are all reusable! Save them for next year.
- Save bubble wrap and air pillows for reuse or deflate them and take them back to retailers to be recycled.
- Packing peanuts, air pillows, and bubble wrap, can be taken to participating UPS locations for reuse. Check with a location near you.



[https://www.ups.com/dropoff/?loc=en\\_US](https://www.ups.com/dropoff/?loc=en_US)

## Consider Alternatives to Styrofoam and Bubble-Wrap:

- Biodegradable starch packing peanuts
- Reuse packing peanuts from previous gifts
- Crumpled ads from the newspaper
- Waste from your paper shredder

# Making Room for the New Stuff

Share your abundance by donating your good usable books, toys, clothes, shoes, and appliances to charitable organizations.

## Salvation Army

<https://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/plugins/gdosCenterSearch?start=1>

## Home Sweet Home

<https://homesweethomestl.org/donate-items/>

## Savers

<https://www.savers.com/>

## Goodwill

<http://www.goodwill.org/locator/>

## Clothing Donations.org

<http://www.clothingdonations.org/>

## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

<https://svdpstlouis.org/thrift-stores/locations>



## None of these close to you?

Check out this directory of St. Louis thrift stores:

[http://www.thethriftshopper.com/city/Saint\\_Louis/MO/1.htm](http://www.thethriftshopper.com/city/Saint_Louis/MO/1.htm)

## Remains, Inc.

In addition to clothing and textiles such as linens and curtains, Remains accepts paired shoes. To locate a collection drive near you or to schedule a recycling collection for your non-profit organization, visit <https://www.remainsinc.com/>

# Electronic Waste

If you give or receive new electronics for the holidays, consider donating working equipment to charity. If reuse is not an option, choose recycling! To ensure that materials are handled responsibly, choose "E Stewards" and "R2 Certified" companies.



To find electronics recycling drop-off locations and a listing of upcoming community electronics recycling collection events, please visit Recycle Coach link [stlouiscountymo.gov/recyclecoach](https://stlouiscountymo.gov/recyclecoach) or scan QR code below.

**Spectrum Ecycle Solutions**  
1521 Page Industrial Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO, 63132  
**314-428-0777**



# Batteries

## Rechargeable Batteries

**FIRE HAZARD:** Never remove batteries from sealed devices. Never drill into or damage devices containing rechargeable batteries. Tape terminals with duct tape or packing tape (not scotch tape - do not cover labeling) or place battery in individual sealable plastic bag, such as a food storage bag.

- Rechargeable batteries need to be recycled but, they cannot go in your trash or curbside recycle bin. For more information, visit [www.call2recycle.org](http://www.call2recycle.org)
- Residents of St. Louis County, St. Louis City, and Jefferson County can use the two Household Hazardous Waste collection locations to drop-off rechargeable batteries. For more information, visit [www.hhwstl.com](http://www.hhwstl.com)
- Rechargeable batteries can also be dropped off at any Batteries-Plus location. Find one near you at <https://www.batteriesplus.com/recycling>

## Single-use/Alkaline Batteries

Single-use batteries are safe to put in the trash. These batteries have fees associated with recycling because the process to recycle them exceeds the market value of the recovered materials.

- Residents of St. Louis County, St. Louis City, and Jefferson County can use the two Household Hazardous Waste collection locations to drop-off single-use batteries. For more information, visit [www.hhwstl.com](http://www.hhwstl.com)
- Disposable batteries can also be dropped off at any Batteries-Plus location. Find one near you: <https://www.batteriesplus.com/recycling>

Please check the following mail-back options for details.

- Catalytic Innovations: <https://www.gorecycleusa.com/#/>
- Call 2 Recycle [www.call2recycle.org](http://www.call2recycle.org)

## HEALTH HAZARD - Button & Coin Sized Lithium Batteries

Button batteries can cause severe internal burns or death if swallowed. If a battery is swallowed immediately call 911 for an ambulance. After calling 911, call the Battery Ingestion Hotline 800-498-8666 for further detailed information and first aid.

# Holiday Lights

Did you just put up your lights, but noticed half the strand isn't working? Don't throw your holiday lights in the trash or recycling bin! You can drop off lights at places that will recycle them properly. Check out the locations below:



## Earthbound Recycling

Get paid 38¢ per pound of lights  
25 Truitt Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63025  
Phone: (636) 938-118  
*Monday - Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.*

## Spectrum Ecycle Solutions

1521 Page Industrial Blvd  
St. Louis, MO 63132  
Phone: (314) 428-0777  
*Monday - Friday: 7 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.*

## Scrap Mart

Get paid 12¢ per pound of lights  
145 W. Outer Rd.  
Valley Park, MO 63088  
Phone: (636) 256-7400  
*Monday - Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.*  
*Saturday: 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.*

## Wellston Scrap & Metal

Get paid 10¢ per pound of lights  
6540 Dr. Martin Luther King Dr.  
Wellston, MO 63133  
Phone: (314) 389-2526  
*Monday - Saturday: 7:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.*  
*Sunday: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.*



Bring your old Christmas lights to Winter Wonderland at Tilles Park November 23, 2024, through January 26, 2025, and the county will recycle them for you! Look for the collection drop-off near the entrance to the park.

# Trees

When you are ready to dispose of your natural cut tree, check your yard waste collection schedule. If you do not have yard waste collection, you have several other options.

St. Louis County Parks has teamed up with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) again this year to put retired trees to good use. Some of the trees will be sunk by MDC in Spanish Lake to create fish habitats. Any trees that cannot be sunk will be mulched.

Parks operation staff invite the community to drop off their undecorated natural Christmas tree at one of four park locations.

Only trees from residential homes are accepted. **All ornaments, lights, and tinsel must be removed prior to drop-off.** Parks will accept trees at the following locations December 16, 2024, until the end of day on Sunday, January 19th, 2025.

- **Spanish Lake Park:** 12500 Spanish Pond Rd., 63138
  - Main parking lot by the lake.
- **Creve Coeur Lake:** 13777 Marine Ave., 63146
  - Sailboat Cove parking lot.
- **Queeny Park:** 550 Weidman Rd., 63011
  - Corporate parking lot off Weidman near the complex.
- **Bee Tree Park:** 2701 Finestown Ave., 63129
  - Lake parking lot.



The following composting facilities will turn your tree into compost or mulch.  
Trees must be free of all tinsel, ornaments, decorations, etc.

## **Fick Supply Services Inc.**

No charge for trees.

501 N. Eatherton Road

Wildwood, MO 63005

Phone: (636) 532- 4978

*Monday-Friday: 7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.*

## Trees (continued)

### St. Louis Composting

\$3 per tree; four drop-off locations:

#### Valley Park Facility

39 Old Elam Avenue

Valley Park, MO 63088

Phone: (636) 861-3344

*Monday – Friday: 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.*

*Saturday: 7:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.*

#### Maryland Heights Facility

11294 Schaefer Drive

Maryland Heights, MO 63043

Phone: (314) 423-9035

*Monday – Friday: 6:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.*

#### Florissant Facility

13060 County Park Road

Florissant, MO 63034

Phone: (314) 355-0052

*Monday – Friday: 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.*

*Saturday: 7:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.*

#### Pacific Facility

18900 Franklin Road

Pacific, MO 63069

Phone: (636) 271-3352

*Monday-Friday: 7:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.*

# Have More Questions?

You can always contact us at [recycle.dph@stlouiscountymo.gov](mailto:recycle.dph@stlouiscountymo.gov), message us (@RecycleSaintLouisCounty) on social media, or call us at 314-615-8958. Happy Holidays!

