



City of Davis Public Works Department

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Environmental Column

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By Jennifer Gilbert, Conservation Coordinator for the City of Davis

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY

In honor of America Recycles Day on November 15, do your part to recycle! Take a closer look at what you throw away in your trash. Chances are that at least 50% of your “trash” is actually recyclable! Not sure if something is recyclable? Visit www.davisrecycling.org for details on what is recyclable in Davis. While you’re there, check out the City of Davis Recyclopeda, where you can find out how to reuse and recycle over 150 different items.

HOLIDAY WASTE REDUCTION TIPS: PART I

It is estimated that between Thanksgiving and New Years, Americans generate an EXTRA million tons of waste EACH WEEK. From leftover food waste from parties, wrapping paper, gift packaging and unwanted gifts, there is a lot of extra waste! Help us reduce waste during the holiday season; reuse or recycle all that extra stuff:

- **Skip the wrapping paper.** Use a ribbon or yarn around the box or use a reusable bag. Then save the bags, boxes, ribbons and bows to use again next year.
- **Re-gift unwanted items.** Instead of buying something new, try re-gifting something you have already that you don’t use or want.
- **Buy recycled products.** Support recycling efforts by buying gifts that are made from recycled materials. Wrapping paper, cards, clothing and more!
- **Buy in bulk.** Whenever possible, buy products in bulk to reduce waste from product packaging.
- **Bring your own bag when shopping.** Reduce the number of shopping bags in landfills! Some stores offer a small refund when you bring your own shopping bags.
- **Shop smart.** Buy products with the least amount of packaging. Why pay extra for useless, extra packaging materials?
- **Use re-useable wrapping.** Use gift boxes and reusable bags for gifts instead of wrapping paper. Then reuse the bags and boxes next year!
- **Compost the food waste.** Instead of tossing out food scraps, try composting them instead. Worm composting is an excellent way to turn food waste into healthy compost for your garden without attracting rodents and insects. Find out more about worm composting online at www.davisrecycling.org.
- **Check out the Green Gift Guide** for more Green Holiday ideas www.greengiftguide.com .

Find more holiday waste reduction tips at www.davisrecycling.org. More holiday waste reduction tips to come in next month’s column.

STREET SWEEPING REMINDER

Please help us to keep our streets free of leaf debris! The Davis Waste Removal street sweepers cannot clean up leaves that are in-between or underneath parked cars on the street. PLEASE park your car off the street on street sweeping day. Leaf litter that piles up in the gutters on streets can impede drainage and lead to standing water. Help us keep the stormwater flowing freely into the storm drains by moving your car on street sweeping day! Streets are usually swept the day after yard waste has been picked up. See www.davisrecycling.org for details.



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FREE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF EVENT

Don't miss this month's free household hazardous waste (HHW) drop-off events today and tomorrow, November 9th and 10th from 9:00am to 2:00pm at the Yolo County Central Landfill! Bring in your paints, pesticides, fluorescent light bulbs, household cleaners, expired medicines and more for FREE and safe disposal. Mark your calendar for the HHW drop-off dates next month, December 7th and 8th from 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Check out the reuse opportunities at the landfill as well! During each HHW drop-off event and the following Saturday reusable items are available for FREE! Stop by the landfill during a HHW drop-off event or on November 17th from 9:00-11:00 am to take your pick of free paints, fertilizers, household cleaners and more!

For more information, visit www.davisrecycling.org or email me at PWweb@cityofdavis.org.