

15 Ways to Green Your Holidays



Gifts

- Shop local to support small businesses and cut down on transportation emissions.
- Gift experiences! Consider gifting a fun virtual experience, trip, outdoor adventure, or ticket to a local entertainment venue.
- Shop sustainably by looking for items that are Fair Trade, Forest Stewardship Council or Rainforest Alliance certified, or are from Certified B Corporations.
- DIY gifts that align with your hobbies like crafting, baking, or woodworking. Bonus points if you reuse items!
- Re-gift!



Wrapping

- Buy quality gift bags, fabric ribbons, and bows that can be saved for reuse next year.
- When buying wrapping paper, make sure it's recyclable; this means no foil, glitter or velvet embellishments.
- Consider giving gifts in cute tote bags or wrap with tea towels that can be used elsewhere.
- Save boxes and mailing supplies to reuse if you are shipping out gifts to family and friends.
- Repurpose old maps, sheet music, wallpaper, extra kid art, or newspaper to wrap gifts.

Food

- Buy local ingredients to support NC farmers and decrease transportation emissions.
- Eat in season! Look for recipes for side dishes that use vegetables available now.
- Adjust the amount of food you are preparing for the size of your gathering to reduce food waste or plan to freeze leftovers.



Décor

- Purchase durable decorations that will spark joy year after year.
- Craft your own decorations. It can be a fun, affordable activity and the results will be tailored to your specific space and style.

