



Wipe out Waste



12 ways to wipe out waste these holidays

1. Make your own decorations - Upcycle/reuse

You may wonder what it is to upcycle. "It's taking something that you would otherwise throw out and finding a way to make it into something else." Check out <http://www.upcyclethat.com/> for more great pictures and stories of items that have been upcycled

Bat-Yam Pavilion - Israel



2. Use reusable dinnerware for parties, rather than disposable plates, cups and cutlery

If you must have single use items, use compostable party ware (this can then be placed into your green bin for composting) you can purchase compostable tableware from Eco Party Box: <http://www.ecopartybox.com.au/> - or paper plates/cups etc



3. Give battery operated gifts with rechargeable batteries

And if you can't afford the rechargeable batteries, then rethink the gift!

4. Keep receipts to exchange unwanted gifts, or donate them to a charitable store

5. Prevent food wastage - store and use leftovers

To use up leftover food in your fridge (and avoid adding to Australia's \$8 billion annual food wastage), look at <http://foodwise.com.au/> a website with delicious recipes to help create delicious meals with your leftovers. A great feature is that you can search for recipes based on ingredients you already have!

6. Separate your cans and bottles for recycling or 10c refund and make money for more holiday activities

- Collect metal lids in a steel can which can be squashed at the top to hold them in to recycle these items.
- Pop plastic lids into a plastic milk or juice bottle and fill it with lids and straws before putting into your yellow lidded recycling bin!



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7. Wrap presents in newspaper, preschool paintings (or finger painting at home) or create cloth wrappers or bags that can be used for years. Ask for them back if you don't think the recipient will reuse it. Avoid using plastic or foil. Remember that paper wrapping can be recycled in the yellow lidded recycling bin even with sticky tape on it.



8. Getting a new TV, phone or PC? Recycle the old one - free! For a list of more than a dozen free drop off sites

<http://www.zerowaste.sa.gov.au/e-waste/ongoing-e-waste-recycling-options-in-south-australia>

9. Compost food scraps, serviettes and paper/hand towel in a green organics bin (check your council area) or worm farm. Just remember if it didn't grow- it DOES NOT Go!



10. Put your REAL Christmas tree in the green bin or mulch it!

11. Plan meals ahead and serve smaller portion sizes to prevent food wastage.

Freeze leftover food for later (Saves cooking on hot summer days!). Put seafood and other scraps in the freezer until your Green Organics bin day if you think it will be too smelly during the warmer weather. (If you're camping- pop it in an empty esky to take home!)



12. Purchase experiences, rather than gifts, or purchase gifts with recyclable or minimal packaging. Give experiences like movies, shows, boat rides, holidays, baby sitting, rather than items that may not be needed (or wanted).