



RAVEN RECYCLING

Our Commitment is the Environment

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CHRISTMAS WASTE

Over the holidays it can be difficult to keep the kids occupied.

They're off school, underfoot and trying to be good so Santa will bring them a nice present.

Keep the kids occupied by asking them to do all the Season's recycling. This means sorting out all the recyclables into the various categories.

There are two main recycling themes over the festive season. There is the eating, and there is the presents.

Before the orgy of gift unwrapping, there is a one to two week lead-up period of eating and drinking. All that holiday feasting creates great recycling opportunities.

Eggnog containers are recyclable, even though they are not part of the refund system. Place them with regular milk cartons at Raven Recycling.

Those boxes that mandarin oranges come in – they're recyclable too. Put them in the corrugated cardboard bins.

The flimsy bits of paper that each orange is wrapped in – they're compostable. Wrap the orange peel in the paper, and place with the rest of the compost.

No matter what time of year, food scraps should be composted. The City of Whitehorse composting program does accept meat.

Check the City pages in the local papers to see when your neighbourhood gets compost picked up.

A lot of chocolate tends to get demolished this time of year.

The box that chocolates come in tend to be boxboard. Note that this is different from corrugated cardboard.

Corrugated cardboard has that bumpy middle layer, while boxboard is flat.

Those soft plastic trays that the chocolates rest in tend to not be recyclable.

However, look closely at them for a recycling symbol.



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If the plastic tray has the recycling loop on it (three arrows forming a triangle) and there is a number one to seven inside the loop, it can be recycled.

Place it in the containers designated for hard plastics at Raven Recycling.

Present opening means lots of paper. As everyone knows, paper can be recycled as long as it is placed in the appropriate container at Raven.

Wrapping paper is considered boxboard when placing it in a recycling container. While it might look glossy and shiny like a magazine, this appearance only occurs on one side. The flip side is usually dull, which indicates it belongs to boxboard.

If in doubt which recycling container to put any sort of paper left over from the holidays, put it in a boxboard container. Boxboard is the lowest sort of paper quality, and can thus accept almost any sort of paper product.

Save bows, ribbons and other gift-wrap adornments for use during the coming year.

Even Christmas cards can be reused. Thus for someone's birthday cross out the words Christmas and New Year and replace it with Birthday.

Thus the card will now read "Have a Merry Birthday and a Happy Birthday". It's one way of spreading the Reduce, Reuse and Recycle message.

Despite the best of intentions some gifts are not appreciated by the recipient.

Unwanted gifts that cannot be returned to the point of purchase should be donated to goodwill shops or placed on free shelves at local recycling centres.

Christmas trees can be put out for pickup by the City of Whitehorse during the week of January 10th.

The Board and Staff of the Raven Recycling Society wish everyone a safe, happy, zero-waste holiday.

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