

25 Actions

FOR A SUSTAINABLE HOLIDAY

Courtesy of the Sustainable Sun Prairie Podcast

GREETING CARDS

- 1) Send e-cards rather than paper cards.
- 2) Purchase FSC certified cards or cards made from recycled materials.
- 3) Repurpose cards as gift tags or wall art.

GIFTS

- 4) Gift an experience.
- 5) Purchase gifts locally.
- 6) Regift unwanted gifts rather than returning them to a store.
- 7) Give a giftcard rather than guessing what the recipient may want or need.

GIFT WRAPPING

- 8) Wrap gifts in newspaper, maps, or other recyclable paper.
- 9) Save and reuse bows, ribbons, tissue paper, and gift bags.
- 10) Use dual-purpose wrapping options, such as towels, baskets, or canvas bags.

DECORATIONS

- 11) Purchase decorations second hand or from your local "Buy Nothing" group.
- 12) Avoid short-lived decor trends and instead stick to traditional, high quality decor items.
- 13) Use or make natural decorations that can be composted at the end of use.

MEALS & FOOD

- 14) Use the online [guestimator](#) tool to calculate the amount of food to prepare for your holiday meal.
- 15) Ask guests to bring a container with them so they can bring home leftovers.
- 16) Compost food waste.
- 17) Cut back emissions by incorporating plant-based options into your meals.

HOLIDAY TREES

- 18) Use what you have, such as a large house plant or potted tree.
- 19) Artificial trees - use for at least 7 years. If the lights burn out, attempt to repair or replace them.
- 20) Real trees - purchase locally and compost/mulch after use.

TRANSPORTATION

- 21) If you're flying, use Google Flights to find flights with the lowest emissions.
- 22) Participate in carbon offset programs to offset emissions associated with your holiday travels.
- 23) Carpool and take public transportation whenever possible.

ENERGY

- 24) Purchase high quality LED lights.
- 25) Use light timers to ensure lights are only on when needed.