

TAKE SOME TIME OUT TO REST & RECYCLE AND HELP MAKE IT A GREENER CHRISTMAS

Day 1	<p><i>Recycling collection times may be different</i> so make a note of the new time. We consume 3 times more bottles and cans over the holidays and in seaside areas it's an additional 400%. If you're going away, check what the local arrangements are. 77% of all councils offer households a kerbside recycling service so there is no excuse for not separating products for recycling from household waste.</p>
Day 2	<p><i>You can recycle:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper, glass, metals (food tins, drink cans, jar lids, wine bottle screw tops) • Plastics 1&2 (and in some places 1-7)
Day 3	<p><i>Organise household bins.</i> Put three bins in your kitchen or storage area: one for recyclables, one for compostable vegetable waste and one for general waste.</p>
Day 4	<p><i>Recycle more packaging more often.</i> New Zealanders consume over 730,000 tonnes of packaging every year but we only recycle about half of it.</p>
Day 5	<p><i>Make a Difference by saying no.</i> Use a reusable shopping bag when you go out Christmas shopping or only use a plastic bag if you really need to. On average every New Zealander uses around 160 bags each a year.</p>
Day 6	<p><i>Recycling reduces greenhouse gas emissions.</i> Did you know using recycled products is also better for the environment because it uses less energy and emits fewer greenhouse gas emissions? Last year the amount we recycled across NZ was the equivalent of taking 8000 cars off the road.</p>
Day 7	<p><i>Be clean and conserve space.</i> Rinse out bottles and cans so it's more pleasant for the recycling operators. Squash plastic containers and cans to save space. Remember, metal lids on jars and wine bottle screw tops will recycle as well as they are made from steel or aluminium.</p>
Day 8	<p><i>Reuse or recycle your Christmas cards.</i> Up to 68 million Christmas cards will be sent to New Zealanders this year. Choose charity cards, cards with recycled content or email cards this year. Your paper collector will recycle your old Christmas cards. Christmas paper can be flattened and reused or recycled.</p>
Day 9	<p><i>Recycle cardboard toys and gift boxes.</i> Flatten and recycle boxes. Did you know that 76% of paper and cardboard is recycled in New Zealand and that we are one of the best records in the world?</p>
Day 10	<p><i>It's not just packaging which can be recycled</i> – there are collection points around for all of these for used batteries, print cartridges and old mobiles.</p>
Day 11	<p><i>Recycle your Christmas Tree.</i> Check with your local council if they have a collection programme for it. Your local transfer station or garden bag operator will accept trees and Living Earth receives trees as part of its green waste collection. Trees can also be used for mulch.</p>
Day 12	<p><i>Make it your New Year's Resolution to reduce, reuse and recycle even more in 2008. If we all do our bit New Zealand WILL remain clean and green</i></p>