Don’t Give “Stuff”
Instead of buying new products, give the gift of experiences, charity, or knowledge, such as memberships to museums, donations to nonprofits, or subscriptions to online courses and tutorials. Or gift something edible like a dessert or a healthy snack packaged in reusable jars. Also consider products that will help reduce waste, such as reusable water bottles, mugs, straws, and to-go containers.

Zero Waste Gift Wrapping
Most gift-wrapping paper has high clay and low paper content, making it difficult to recycle. Instead, choose reused or reusable options to wrap gifts, like comics, posters, maps, or calendars (all recyclable), or fabric and reusable cloth gift bags. If you are shipping gifts, replace foam or bubble wrap with balled-up, recyclable paper.

Sustainable Holiday Gift Tags & Cards
Have old holiday cards lying around? Repurpose them as gift tags or place setting cards. Consider sending out e-cards this holiday season instead of cards printed on photo paper, which cannot be recycled. Cards embossed with foil, glitter, or ribbons, and cards printed on photo paper, cannot be recycled.

Stop Junk Mail
The holidays can bring catalogs and other mail asking you to buy, buy, buy. But you can stop it! As soon as you receive an unwanted publication, call the 1-800 number and ask to be removed from their list. Learn more tricks, including 6 steps to getting and staying off mailing lists, at ecocycle.org/junkmail.

Make Gatherings Zero Waste
Instead of disposable tableware, serve food on real, reusable dishware. Borrow dish sets and glassware from friends or go thrift store shopping for a special holiday set. Decorate the table with gourds and squash, bowls full of apples, or other seasonal fruits and veggies. And, to prevent food waste, use planning tools available at savethefood.com.

Use LED Holiday Lights
Traditional incandescent holiday lights are huge energy-suckers! We recommend recycling your old lights and investing in LEDs. They may cost a little more up front, but holiday LED lights consume 80% less energy and last up to 25 times longer.

Re-charge It!
Every year, over 15 billion batteries are produced worldwide, and many are alkaline batteries that are thrown out after just one use. Replace your alkaline batteries with rechargeable ones. Newer models can charge in as little as 15 minutes!

Check out our complete Holiday Guide online at ecocycle.org/holidayguide
Batteries
RECYCLE AT THESE LOCATIONS ONLY, NOT in curbside bins
Rechargeable Batteries:
• Boulder County Hazardous Materials Management Facility
• Longmont Waste Diversion Center
Alkaline Batteries:
• Boulder County Hazardous Materials Management Facility
• Check listings at ecocycle.org/a-zguide

Electronics & Appliances
RECYCLE AT THESE LOCATIONS:
• CHaRM (fees apply)
• with a responsible company listed here: ecocycle.org/a-zguide/electronics

Disposing of electronics in the trash is illegal in Colorado.

Food Scraps
COMPOST in curbside bins and at:
• CHaRM; fees apply. Visit ecocycle.org/charm for details.
• Longmont Waste Diversion Center
• Nederland Transfer Station & Recycling Drop-off Center

Cooking Oil
RECYCLE AT THESE LOCATIONS ONLY – NOT in curbside bins:
• CHaRM; $3 facility fee applies
• Longmont Waste Diversion Center

Holiday String Lights & Extension Cords
RECYCLE AS SCRAP METAL AT THESE LOCATIONS ONLY (no fee), NOT in curbside bins:
• Boulder County Hazardous Materials Management Facility
• Check listings at ecocycle.org/a-zguide

Holiday Cards
REUSE cards as next year’s gift tags or place-setting cards.
RECYCLE in curbside bins and drop-off centers.
NO cards embossed with foil or other non-paper material. NO non-paper items such as ribbons, photos or photo paper.

Dark Envelopes
COMPOSTABLE, NOT RECYCLABLE
Dark-colored envelopes such as reds and greens are not recyclable.
White-light-colored paper envelopes are OK to recycle curbside.

Plastic Bags
Includes grocery/checkout bags, dry-cleaner bags and Ziploc-style bags
RECYCLE AT THESE LOCATIONS ONLY, NOT in curbside bins:
• CHaRM; $3 facility fee applies
• Longmont Waste Diversion Center
• Participating Grocery Stores: Find locations at ecocycle.org/a-zguide.

Bags must be clean, dry and empty.
NO tape. Plastic bags are NOT recyclable in curbside bins.
Visit ecocycle.org/charm for details.

Wrapping Paper
*Please avoid if possible as gift wrapping paper is a very low-grade material and normally considered a contaminant in the recycling bin because of its high clay and ink content and low fiber content.
For a limited time only in BOULDER & LONGMONT: Dec 26-Jan 31
RECYCLE AT THESE LOCATIONS ONLY (no fee), NOT in curbside bins:
• Boulder County Recycling Center in the bin marked “Wrapping Paper”
• Longmont Waste Diversion Center in the bin marked “Wrapping Paper”

Please do not put wrapping paper in with single-stream recycling.

Paper Shopping Bags & Cardboard Boxes
RECYCLE curbside or drop-off centers. Large staples & shiny graphics OK. REMOVE non-paper handles (string, etc) metal grommets.

Tree Recycling
Please be sure to remove all decor, tinsel, lights, stands, etc. Do not leave other materials like garlands, wreaths, or trash.
Boulder County/CHaRM of Boulder:
Accepting trees Dec. 26-Jan 31 at Western Disposal, 5880 Butte Mill Rd. Trees can also be picked up curbside on your residential compost day until Jan 31 (if tree is longer than 6 feet, please cut top off and place in compost bin)

Erie: Accepting trees 12/26-1/12/21; Sat-Tue, 8am-4pm at 1000 Briggs St. erieco.gov, 303-926-2670
Lafayette: Accepting trees 12/28-1/29/21; Mon-Fri, 6am-2:30pm, at 1700 Avalon Ave. cityoflafayette.com, 303-661-1306
Louisville: Accepting trees Jan 2-3, 8am-4pm at 1779 Empire Rd. louisville.gov, 303-335-4733
Longmont: Accepting trees 12/26-1/16; Mon-Sat, 8-4pm at the Waste Diversion Ctr. Collections also at Roosevelt, Garden Acres, Kanemoto, and Centennial Park. longmontcolorado.gov, 303-651-8416 ext. 8
Superior: Accepting trees 12/26-1/31/21, 8am-5pm daily at 1630 Honey Creek Dr. superiorcolorado.gov/community/trash-recycling, 303-499-3675

Got Recycling Questions?
A-Z Recycling Guide: ecocycle.org/a-zguide
Email: recycle@ecocycle.org
Eco-Cycle Recycling Hotline: 303-444-6634