

## SOCRRA Holiday Recycling Guide

With the holiday season upon us, many recyclers have questions about items that are more common during this time of year. Here is a quick cheat sheet of recyclables to keep in mind this year:



Aluminum Trays  
(emptied and rinsed)



Plastic packaging  
(any plastic containers, if it held something, it's recyclable)



Cardboard boxes  
(flattened & cut to size; no larger than your bin)



Boxboard  
Gift boxes and food packaging



Holiday greeting cards  
(including photo cards)



Wrapping paper, tissue paper, paper gift bags & paper tubes



Packaging foam such as molded forms and shapes—DROP-OFF ONLY

For this month.....

## Holiday Waste by the Numbers

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The holiday season is another time of year to consider the three R's—reduce, reuse and recycle. Consider these stats as you enjoy the season and commit to waste reduction and recycling this year as part of your celebration.

Approximately 1.5 billion cards are sent over the holiday season in the U.S., which requires 300,000 new trees to be harvested each year.

Source: [Hallmark](#) and [Discovery Planet Green](#)

Holiday lights in the U.S. use more than 2.2 million mega-watt hours of electricity every holiday season. That is enough electricity to run more than 173,000 homes for a year. Source: [Eco-Cycle](#); calculation based on [Energy Star study](#) and [EPA equivalency factors](#)

There are approximately 33 million live holiday trees sold in the U.S. each year. Source: [EPA, Reducing Holiday Waste](#)

More than 3 in 4 Americans wish that holidays were less materialistic. Nearly 9 in 10 believe that holidays should be more about family and caring for others, not giving and receiving gifts. Source: [Center for a New American Dream, Simplify the Holidays](#)

About 40% of all battery sales in the U.S. occur during the holiday season. Source: [EPA, Reducing Holiday Waste](#)

Source: Ecocycle

<http://www.ecocycle.org/holidayguide#numbers>

*Wishing you a wonderful holiday season!*