

Green Tips for a Healthier Holiday Season

The holidays are a time for joy and celebration—but they can also generate a lot of waste and energy use. This year, add a touch of green to your festivities! With a few simple choices, you can enjoy the season while keeping our air clean and the planet healthy. Here are some easy ways to celebrate sustainably:

Decorate Sustainably



Each year, millions of Christmas trees, wreaths, and rolls of gift wrap end up in landfills. Choose long-lasting, reusable decorations, or if you prefer natural trees, recycle them through your city's green waste program. For wrapping, skip the single-use paper and try creative alternatives like newspaper, fabric, reusable tins, or gift bags.

Cool Down Your Laundry



Cut carbon emissions by switching two weekly loads of laundry from hot to cold water. Wash only full loads to save both water and energy—good for the planet and your wallet.

Avoid Residential Wood Burning



Wood smoke adds harmful air pollution and can impact your health. Choose cleaner options such as gas or electric fireplaces and firepits. Sign up for Air Alerts to know when a No-Burn Day is in effect.

Choose Sustainable Transportation



Make travel greener this holiday season by carpooling, taking public transit, or using an electric vehicle for shopping and gatherings. Small choices add up to cleaner air for everyone.

Opt for Energy Efficiency

Heating and holiday lighting can drive up energy use. Keep your system well-maintained, switch to energy-efficient bulbs, and use timers or surge protectors for holiday lights. Turn off lights and electronics when not in use to save energy and reduce your electric bill.



Mind Your Thermostat

Lower your thermostat a few degrees when you're asleep or away from home. A programmable thermostat makes it easy to stay comfortable while conserving energy.



Give Greener Gifts

Consider gifts that encourage sustainability—such as reusable products, energy-efficient gadgets, or memorable experiences instead of material items. Indoor plants like spider plants, snake plants, and peace lilies also make thoughtful gifts while improving indoor air quality.

