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# For Holidays, City Recommends the “12 Ways of Sustainability”

## SAN DIEGANS CAN HELP CITY MEET GOALS OF CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

SAN DIEGO – There are many ways this holiday season that San Diegans can improve the environment, help the City meet the goals of its Climate Action Plan, and save money all at the same time.

The City of San Diego’s Climate Action Plan calls for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 15 percent by 2020, and 50 percent by 2035. To meet these goals, the City has five strategies that include 100 percent renewable electricity; water and energy efficiency; zero waste; bicycling, walking, transit and land use; and resiliency measures. The Climate Action Plan will serve the needs of San Diegans, and provide economic, social and environmental sustainability.

Below are a dozen suggestions that San Diegans can do this holiday season that help meet the Climate Action Plan goals:

1. With rain and cooler temperatures, you can reduce or even temporarily stop [irrigation of your landscaping](#).
2. Recycle your Christmas tree at one of the City’s [16 drop-off locations](#).
3. Using LED lights for holiday decorations will help [keep energy costs low](#).
4. Purchase a living Christmas tree that can be planted after the holidays and contribute to our [urban forest](#).
5. [Recycle gift wrap](#) and use re-usable ribbon.
6. Give a [rain barrel](#) as a gift and take advantage of the rebate program.
7. If you’re planning a trip to the shopping mall, take [public transit](#) and avoid crowded parking lots.
8. When making a holiday feast, make sure to [properly dispose of cooking grease](#) and don’t pour it down the drain.

9. Deck your home with holiday decorations made of paper or other materials that can be [recycled](#).
10. If [curbside yard waste recycling](#) is available in your neighborhood, dispose of your holiday wreath along with other greenery.
11. Give friends and family [drought-tolerant plants](#) as gifts.
12. If you receive a new electronic item as a gift, [recycle your old one the safe and proper way](#).

More information about the City's Climate Action Plan and its Sustainability Program is available on the City's web site: [www.sandiego.gov/sustainability](http://www.sandiego.gov/sustainability)

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