



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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***ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT***  
**NEWS RELEASE**

**CITY ENCOURAGES RESIDENTS  
TO HAVE A GREEN THANKSGIVING**

***EVERY HOLIDAY OFFERS  
OPPORTUNITIES TO RECYCLE***

The holiday season begins with Thanksgiving and generates high volumes of refuse and recyclables, which is why it is so important to properly dispose of all holiday waste. By recycling and/or using environmentally friendly alternatives during the holiday season, the life of the landfill will be extended and the overall condition of the environment will benefit.

The City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department (ESD) encourages residents to consider some of these helpful hints to have a happy and GREEN Thanksgiving holiday. ESD reminds everyone to continue using these seasonal suggestions as part of their daily commitment to help in preserving the environment.

**GREEN THANKSGIVING TIPS:**

TIP #1 - When making your grocery list, keep in mind the quantity of food you will need. Try not to over-prepare to avoid waste. This will also reduce the amount of waste generated by product packaging.

TIP #2 - Take your reusable bags with you to carry your groceries home from your local market. Shopping close to home not only conserves fuel, but fuels the local economy.

TIP #3 - Use your dishes and glasses instead of paper plates and disposable cups. Cloth napkins also add to the formal setting of your Holiday feast.

TIP #4 - Be sure to recycle as much of your waste as possible. Items that can be placed in your blue recycle bin include:

- aluminum pie and turkey tins;
- cardboard food containers;
- glass food jars used for apple sauce, fruit juices, preserves, etc.;
- metal cans used for cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie filling, green beans, etc.;
- paper egg cartons;
- plastic juice boxes;
- paper packaging and boxes;
- plastic milk and water jugs;
- soda, cider, wine, champagne, beer and other beverages in bottles and cans.

TIP #5 - Reuse pie tins and jars to store and send home leftovers with family and friends as an alternative to throwing them away.

TIP #6 - When disposing of food waste, place it in a tightly knotted plastic bag to avoid decomposing odors and discourage insects and rodents.

TIP #7 - You can put your vegetable waste in your backyard compost bin.

TIP #8 - If you plan on cooking your turkey with oil, the City offers a cooking oil drop-off location free of charge at the Miramar Recycling Center. (Call 858-268-8971 for directions to the center and for hours of operation.)

TIP #9 - Do not pour cooking oil down the drain. If you do not bring it to the Miramar Recycling Center, this material should be absorbed with paper towels, newspaper, kitty litter, or saw dust and then placed in a plastic bag before discarding in the trash.

TIP #10 – Liquids of any kind are not to be disposed of in your black trash containers.

### **RECYCLING INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE**

For more information on holiday waste reduction ideas, recycling, composting or trash collection, contact the City of San Diego Environmental Services Department at 858-694-7000, or visit the ESD website at: [www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services](http://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services).

For more information about the City of San Diego's Grease Disposal Program, contact the Metropolitan Wastewater Department at 858-292-6484, or visit: [www.sandiego.gov/mwwd](http://www.sandiego.gov/mwwd)

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