Green Gift-Giving Tips

**Gift Certificates:** Gift certificates are a great choice because they produce little waste.

**Homemade Gifts:** Ideas include: baked goods, homemade dishes, arts & crafts such as scrap books, photo albums, and personalized coffee mugs.

**Tickets:** Tickets to concerts, movies, sporting events, etc., like gift certificates, produce little waste.

**Buy gifts with the most longevity:** Buy gifts that will last the longest thereby postponing disposal.

**Buy gifts with a recycled-content logo:** Items with recycled-content logos are made from recycled materials.

**Buy recycled batteries:** Rechargeable batteries can be recharged 500-1000 times! Buy rechargeable batteries when purchasing toys and games.

Reduce Your Holiday Footprint

**Carry Reusable Bags:** Buying gifts can produce waste. Reusable bags are widely available and will greatly reduce litter and disposal during the holiday season.

**Send Ecards:** 2.6 billion greeting cards are sold in the U.S. each year alone. Ecards reduce the amount of paper being used and disposed to send holiday greetings.

**Be Creative With Your Wrapping:** 38,000 miles of ribbon, enough to tie around the Earth, are thrown out each year! Reusing ribbons saves money and resources. Using newspaper to wrap presents economical and green. Creativity tip: use newspaper articles that match the personality and interest of the recipient. For example: funny personality-comics, athletic type-sports page, or enthusiastic reader-book review.

**Recycle Your Christmas Tree:** 25-30 million Christmas trees will be cut in the United States this year. Take advantage of curbside recycling programs, nurseries, or use the trees as mulch for your own yard.

**Recycle Old Electronics:** If you are receiving or giving electronics this year chances are they will replace the old ones. It is against the law to dispose of electronics in the trash. Look for electronic waste roundups to recycle your old electronics and batteries.

For more information on green tips, visit [http://cjwmb.ca.gov/publiced/holidays/default.htm](http://cjwmb.ca.gov/publiced/holidays/default.htm).