



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Republic Services Announces Recycling “Naughty and Nice Lists” *We see you when you’re recycling-We see you when you’re not!*

MELROSE PARK-- December 11, 2015

—Even if you have been a good recycler all year long, what to do with holiday decorations and gift wrap may present a challenge. Is wrapping paper recyclable? What about Christmas tree ornaments? Tinsel?

To answer those questions, Allied Waste has its own “naughty and nice” list of recyclable holiday materials.

NICE (recyclable)

Gift boxes
Tissue paper
Shoe boxes
Christmas tree (non-artificial)
Holiday cards/envelopes
Gift bags (if paper)
Wrapping paper (non-metallic)

NAUGHTY (not recyclable)

Bubble wrap (consider reusing)
Foam peanuts (Some UPS stores will accept and re-use)
Ribbon and bows (consider reusing)
Anything on the tree
Sticky gift labels
Gift bags if coated, laminated, dyed
Metallic wrapping paper (consider reusing)
Soiled disposable tableware

“The holidays are not a time to forget about recycling but instead a time to consider the packaging that comes with the gifts we receive, which is often not recyclable. For example, metallic wrapping paper is often dyed and laminated and may contain non-paper additives, such as gold and silver coloring, glitter and plastics,” said Kurt Blascoe, director of materials marketing and recycling for Republic Services. “We encourage people to wrap presents creatively using items that can later be reused or are recyclable.”

Ribbons and bows cannot be recycled because they are not paper products. Christmas trees must be stripped of all decorations (tinsel, lights, bells, ornaments, etc.) before the tree can be mulched or composted. .

Republic Services suggests that there are creative and practical ways to reuse items that are not recyclable. For example, use sustainable packing materials when packing and sending gifts. Instead of purchasing new foam peanuts, use shredded newspaper or even popcorn. Foam peanuts are made from polystyrene and are usually not recyclable. If you receive foam peanuts in packages, consider reusing them for later shipping.

For those holiday greeting cards you receive this season, recycle paperboard and paper envelopes. If you just cannot bear to toss them in the bin, use them to make a festive gift tag.

More clever ideas for recycling and reusing holiday materials can be found online – simply search “recycling holiday décor” for a variety of websites with some great information. And remember, no matter what the season, never put plastic bags in the recycling container.

About Republic Services

Republic Services, Inc. provides recycling and solid waste collection, transfer and disposal services in the United States and Puerto Rico. The Company’s various operating units, including collection companies, transfer stations, recycling centers and landfills, are focused on providing reliable environmental services and solutions for commercial, industrial, municipal and residential customers. For more information, visit the Republic Services website at www.republicservices.com.