



## Fun and Earth friendly gift wrap

Birthdays and other special days happen year-round. During the winter months, we also celebrate special holidays. With so many merry celebrations during this fun time of year, families do lots of gift buying and giving. If you choose to wrap gifts, consider fun, reusable materials instead of traditional, expensive wrapping paper. Wrapping paper is not recyclable. Neither are packaged bows and ribbons. Here are some interesting and creative ways to make your holiday gifts beautiful and nice for the Earth.

- Wrap gifts in fabric, such as scarves, bandanas, tea towels, or cloth napkins.

This type of wrapping is known in Japan as Furoshiki. There is no need to worry about finding the end of the tape or running out of paper, and the wrapping becomes part of the gift. To see



how to wrap gifts using Furoshiki, visit <https://youtu.be/Wj0Vj08wIBQ>.

- Instead of using plastic bows, add nature to your gift. Pine clippings, boxwood, holly, cedar, pine cones, and rosemary make beautiful and sweet-smelling package decorations.
- Start a new tradition. Make a cloth drawstring bag, called a Santa Sack, and reuse it each year.
- Bubble wrap looks like ice and is fun to pop. Wrap gifts in leftover bubble wrap and give the gift of popping too!
- Use recyclable items from around the house:
  - Aluminum foil
  - Colorful sections of the newspaper, such as the comics or ads
  - Magazine pages
  - Cereal boxes
  - Old sheet music
  - Cardboard decorated to look like a gingerbread house
  - Paper shopping bags turned inside out and decorated
  - Artwork from school
- Be creative! Leftover wallpaper scraps, yarn, string, and other items can be reused instead of buying new wrapping paper and ribbons. Old holiday cards can be made into gift tags.

With a little creativity, stuff lying around the house can become gift wrap, a gift tag, or even the gift itself!



## Clever ideas for a simpler holiday season

We offer two hands-on programs that are perfect for this time of year — “Get MORE Out of the Holidays: Simplify” and “Trash to Treasure Crafts.” We can visit classrooms, as well as scout troops, clubs, after-school programs, and other youth groups. Ask your teacher to contact Amy Sieferman at [asieferman@HendricksSolidWaste.com](mailto:asieferman@HendricksSolidWaste.com) to learn more.

We also have “Get MORE Out of the Holidays: Simplify” brochures available. To request one for your family, just call 317-858-6070.

## Enjoy our library

Did you know the District has an Environmental Lending Library? We have books about making crafts and science projects from trash, creating less food waste, composting, and more. Take some time this winter to come into our office at 104 E. Main Street in Brownsburg to check out some books. Then snuggle up and read.

## Recycle: Heart and Sole

Start gathering your unwanted and worn shoes to donate to those in need. Again this school year, the District will be teaming up with local schools and the organization Changing Footprints for the “Recycle: Heart and Sole” shoe collection. Shoes will be accepted February 4 through February 8, 2019. To be a participating school, ask your teacher or principal to contact Amy Sieferman at [asieferman@HendricksSolidWaste.com](mailto:asieferman@HendricksSolidWaste.com). If your school doesn't take part, you can drop off shoes during the collection week at the Hendricks County Solid Waste Management District office, located at 104 E. Main Street, Brownsburg.



# TIME AFTER TIME

A time capsule is a container that holds articles from a certain place and time. Time capsules are usually buried or built into a sealed place and meant to be opened much later. They show people in the future what life was like at the time they were buried.

A time capsule was found in Olivia's backyard. It was buried the same year that Goodwill was created in Boston, Massachusetts and began collecting, sorting, and offering unwanted goods for repair and reuse. Add the number of articles found to discover what year Goodwill began its work and the capsule was buried.

826 coins    279 socks  
137 buttons    660 nails

What was the year? \_\_\_\_\_  
Why was the creation of Goodwill important?  
\_\_\_\_\_

# From Trash To Treasure Box

Do you know what is even better than recycling? Reuse! Here is a fun way to reuse old 2-liter bottles and turn them into a treasure box. For this craft, you will need two 2-liter bottles, duct tape, glue, scissors, a bead, string or yarn, and paint, stickers, markers, or other decorative items.

- Clean both 2-liter bottles thoroughly with dish soap and water. Dry the outside and turn them upside down to allow the inside to dry out. Let them sit for a day or two.
- Have an adult cut about 3 inches above the bottom of a bottle in a full circle to separate the top and the bottom. Do the same on the other bottle. Recycle the tops of the bottles and keep the bottoms. Trim to make sure there are no sharp edges.
- Put the bottom parts of each bottle together so that the cut edges are touching each other.
- Cut a piece of duct tape about 1 inch square. Place it on the outside of the bottles where the openings touch.
- Cut another piece of duct tape about 1 inch square. Lift the top bottle, using the tape you placed on the outside as a hinge. Place the second piece of duct tape inside the bottles over the same area as the first piece.
- Close the bottles together again.
- On the side opposite from the tape, glue the bead to the bottom bottle, about half an inch below the opening.
- Cut a piece of yarn or string, long enough to loop from half an inch above the opening down and around the bead. Glue the two ends of the string or yarn half an inch above the opening. This will serve as a latch to seal the box.
- Leave the glue to dry for about a day.
- Decorate the inside and outside of the box however you like! Use paint, stickers, markers, colorful duct tape, or other items to make it unique.
- Put treasures in your box or give it as a gift!



# PUZZLING CLUES

Nicole and her sisters used old greeting cards to make collages for their parents. Each girl used a different number of cards. Use the clues below to figure out how many cards each sister used.

- Nicole used three cards more than Gabriela.
- Gabriela used one card less than Ana.
- Camila used twice as many cards as Ana.
- Ana used three cards.

- Questions:
- Which clue did you use first?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - Which clue did you use last?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - Who used the fewest cards?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - Who used the most cards?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - How many cards did each sister use?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Read each run-on sentence. Fix it in two ways: write two simple sentences, and write one compound sentence using either a comma and coordinating conjunction or a semi-colon.

- I want to repair my cell phone I don't know how.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Ethan offered to trade his soccer goal for a skate ramp Olivia turned him down.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Fix the hole in your jeans cover it with a patch.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- You can borrow that book from the library take your library card.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Refill your water bottle get in the minivan.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Ava found the game at the secondhand store she didn't buy it.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Madeline gave away her baseball glove it was too small for her.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Recycling is good reusing is better.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# FUN with Phrases

A prepositional phrase is a group of words containing a preposition and its object. These groups of words often add details about WHEN or WHERE.



Preposition + Its Object = Prepositional Phrase

We have filled in the first blanks to provide an example. Fill in the remaining blanks below to show the parts of the prepositional phrases in each sentence.

Sentence	Preposition	Object	Prepositional Phrase
Emma recycles during the summer.	during	summer	during the summer
Sofia picks up trash on the playground.			
Lucas composts leaves in a wire bin.			
Miss Sanchez grasscycles the clippings in her yard.			

Complete each sentence below with a prepositional phrase. Select prepositions from the word bank or choose your own. The words you choose should describe WHEN or WHERE.



Preposition Word Bank:

in    on    at    during    over    off  
for    by    to    around    before

- Newspaper is recycled \_\_\_\_\_.
- Thanksgiving and America Recycles Day are celebrated \_\_\_\_\_.
- Nelson donates his old toys \_\_\_\_\_.
- We love to vermicompost \_\_\_\_\_.

BONUS: Underline the preposition and circle the object in each sentence.



## Tree-cycle and tree-use after the holidays

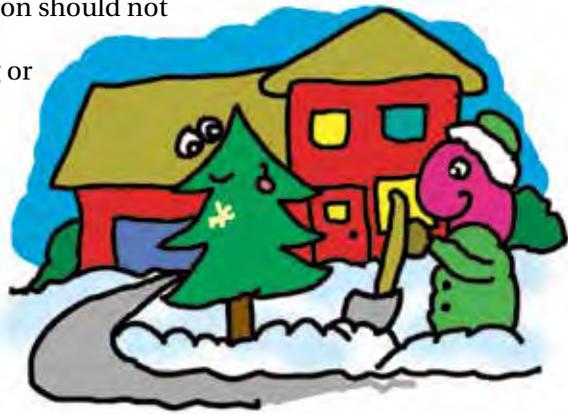
The end of the holiday season should not mean the end for your tree. Give it a new life by reusing or recycling it!

If your family had a cut, real Christmas tree, you can recycle it so it becomes mulch by the time spring rolls around. After you remove all of the decorations, lights, garland, and tinsel, as well as the metal stand, you are ready to drop it off at one

of our District Yard Waste Recycling Centers. Real Christmas trees will be accepted from December 21 through January 21. The centers are located at 90 Mardale Drive in Brownsburg and 7020 S. CR 875 E in Plainfield. Greencycle McCarty in Danville will also accept cut, real Christmas trees.

If you bought a live tree with the roots attached, you can plant it in your backyard. Remember to dig the hole now before the ground is frozen. When you plant your tree, your family can enjoy it for many more years.

If your family has an artificial tree, remove all of the decorations, pack up the tree carefully, and put it in the basement, garage, or attic for next year.



## Don't trash e-waste

You may be surprised to learn that the average American home contains five devices that connect directly to the internet, plus many other electronics. If you stop and think carefully, you may find that you own at least one of them, and maybe more. What is your favorite? Do you like to catch up on a favorite TV show? Do you text your friends and family from a cell phone? Do you and your friends play Xbox? Do you like to read on an e-reader or watch videos on a tablet?

When these electronic gadgets break or are replaced, be sure to remember that they should never go into the trash. Old electronics are called e-waste. There are chemicals and metals inside e-waste that can harm our environment. What can you do when it is time to get rid of e-waste?

First, if the device still works, maybe you could sell it or give it away. Second, think about whether or not you or someone else could fix a

broken device and then reuse it or sell it. If you like to try new things, visit [www.iFixit.com](http://www.iFixit.com). This website provides instructions about how to fix things like iPads and Xboxes.

If you can't find someone to use an old device or can't fix it, be sure to recycle. To find a place in Hendricks County to properly recycle cell phones, batteries, iPods/MP3 players, tablets, computers, and TVs, visit our searchable online "Recycling Guide" at [www.HendricksSolidWaste.com](http://www.HendricksSolidWaste.com).

If you are up for a service project, ask your teacher or principal if you can organize a cell phone drive at your school. Kids can encourage their parents, grandparents, and even neighbors to donate old, unused cell phones to the school. Search online for "cell phone recycling fundraiser" or "cell phone recycling charity" for ways that donations can raise money for school projects or help people in need.

Look around your house and notice how many electronics are in use and how many are sitting in a drawer or closet somewhere. Is it time to recycle old cell phones and other e-waste?



## Reuse in Hendricks County

### Secondhand and Consignment Shops

Room Swap Consignments – [www.Facebook.com/RoomSwapConsignments](http://www.Facebook.com/RoomSwapConsignments)

Kids Go Round – [www.kidsgoround.net](http://www.kidsgoround.net)

Goodwill (Avon, Brownsburg, Plainfield) – [www.goodwill.org](http://www.goodwill.org)

Half Price Books – [www.hpb.com](http://www.hpb.com)

### Repair Shops

#### Cell Phone Repair

Fix My Cell – [www.fixmycellonline.com](http://www.fixmycellonline.com)

The iShop – [www.theishoprepair.com](http://www.theishoprepair.com)

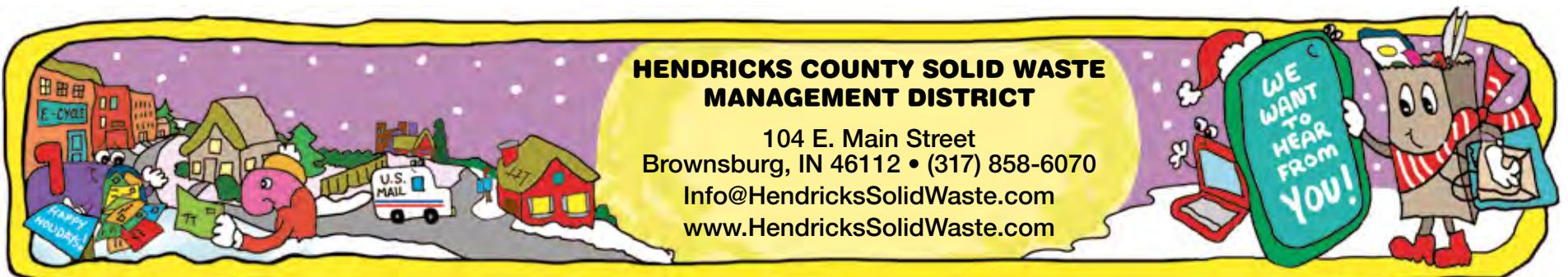
#### Bicycle Repair

Gear Up Cyclery – [www.gearupcyclery.com](http://www.gearupcyclery.com)

#### Computer Repair

There are many options for computer repair in Hendricks County. Check online.

Funded by the Hendricks County  
Solid Waste Management District



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