



## Make This a Green Holiday

Here are some ways to make the season environmentally friendly:

1. Buy wrapping paper made with recycled content.
2. Save used wrapping paper and reuse it next year.
3. Make your own gift wrap from butcher paper, reused brown paper bags, newspapers, and the funny pages.
4. Buy baskets at garage sales and local thrift stores to fill with homemade treats.
5. Make reusable gift sacks from scrap cloth material.
6. Or, don't give packages at all. Instead, give certificates for services like car washing or babysitting.

### Helpful Reminders

1. The **2012 recycling schedules** are in the mail and posted at [www.roloma.org](http://www.roloma.org).
2. Oro Loma residents are entitled to **two free bulky pickups** per year. Call (510) 613-8710 at least two weeks in advance to schedule your pickup. Bulky waste pickup is suspended January 2-13 during the holiday tree collection.
3. Because both Christmas and New Years Day fall on a Sunday, there is **no change in trash and recycling schedules** this year.

## Cooking Green

Food shared with friends and family nourishes the body and the soul. By following a few simple steps, that holiday feast can also benefit the environment.

- Never pour fats, oil, or grease down drains, even if you have a garbage disposal. Fats, grease, and oil poured down the drain can solidify and cause sewer backups in the home or street.
- Pour small amounts of cooking oil and grease into a sealable container and dispose of it in the garbage.
- Take large amounts of used cooking oil (including from deep fryers) to a grease recycling location. To find a location near you, visit <http://baywise.org/disposal-locations>.
- Large amounts of grease can also be brought to one of four household hazardous waste sites in Alameda County. For more information, including hours of operation and directions, go to [www.household-hazwaste.org](http://www.household-hazwaste.org) or call (800) 606-6606.
- Use a kitchen sink strainer to catch food particles and leftover food scrapings. Then dispose of them in your green waste cart.
- Collect vegetable peels, turkey carcasses, ham bones, and food-soiled paper products and put them into your green waste cart for pickup every week. The food scraps mixed with yard waste will be brought to a commercial composting facility, where they will be turned into valuable compost. For more information and a list of items accepted for food scrap recycling, go to [www.roloma.org/refuse/residential/recyclable.html](http://www.roloma.org/refuse/residential/recyclable.html).

