

## WASTE MANAGEMENT: MAKE YOUR HALLOWEEN GREEN

This season, Waste Management reminds its residents to save money and Think Green® by avoiding traditional Halloween routines - that usually result in waste -- in favor of recyclable, eco-friendly habits.

- **Use the whole pumpkin:** Most everyone buys a pumpkin to celebrate the holiday and ends up tossing it in the trash on Nov. 1. However, avoiding that waste is easy by using the pumpkin both for food and decoration. It's easy to bake the seeds with a little bit of salt for a tasty and healthy snack; or, puree the freshly cutout pieces for recipes that call for fresh pumpkin - avoiding canned pumpkin. All other parts of the pumpkin can be added to your compost pile.
- **Skip the expensive plastic costumes:** Put less stress on your wallet by opting for costumes made of reusable or recycled materials. Incite your family's creativity by constructing a unique, exciting costume from scratch. Check out local thrift stores for easy-to-do costume idea, like a gypsy or a flapper.
- **Use recyclable bags for your *Trick-or-Treaters*:** A fun family activity is to create a unique *Trick-or-Treat* basket, or simply put a reusable bag to good use. Avoiding the plastic *Jack-O-Lantern* type containers will avoid clutter, save money, and add a dash of originality to your *Trick-or-Treaters'* costume.
- **Candy Options Are Out There:** When stocking up for the Oct. 31, look for candy brands that donate part of their profits to environmental causes; Fair Trade-sourced chocolates; or sweets made with pure cane sugar, fruit juice, and natural colors. If you're skipping candy for health reasons, try handing out small toys, pencils, or soy crayons. And buy in bulk to avoid the packaging waste.
- **DIY Decorations:** Making your own decorations provides yet another money-saving, green-going opportunity. Must-haves like plastic spiders, witches and ghosts can be a one-time purchase saved for use, year after year. When possible, look for reclaimed material; if you're buying things you know you can't keep—like streamers or paper plates—be sure to look for brands that are both recycled and recyclable. Many decorations can be made with items you find around the house, like 2-liter soda bottles, milk jugs, or tin cans.

Waste Management reminds its communities that where others see waste, we see opportunity. We're working to find the most efficient and forward-thinking approach to waste. With the help of our communities, all of us can help protect the environment and improve the quality of life on the planet we share.

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## Celebrate America Recycles Day on November 15: Calculate Your Personal Environmental Savings When You Recycle

**Did you know** that by recycling just one aluminum can, you can save enough energy to power a television set for 3 hours? Celebrate National Recycles Day this year on November 15 by calculating the energy saved and positive impacts on the environment by recycling certain items such as plastic, aluminum, paper and glass. Use our [Think Green widget](#) to calculate your personal savings and impact.

*Did you know* that WM is North America's largest recycler of household-generated recyclables, recycling enough newspaper, office paper and cardboard last year to save more than 41 million trees; and a WM customer you are making a difference!

WM manages more than 7.6 million tons of recyclable commodities in our plants, through our brokerage operations, in our waste-based energy plants, and through our industrial recycling operations. Our efforts save enough energy to power 1.3 million households.

By recycling more than 40,000 tons of aluminum, we save enough energy to run 1.6 million TVs for 13 hours a day for a year.

To read our 2010 Sustainability Report, please visit: [www.wm.com/sustainability/index.jsp](http://www.wm.com/sustainability/index.jsp) . For more information on Waste Management's sustainability initiatives, visit [www.thinkgreen.com](http://www.thinkgreen.com).

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## Entertaining for the Holidays? Think Green with These Tips from WM

To make your holiday party as eco-friendly as possible, start with the three Rs of conservation: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

- Scrap your traditional paper party invitations and go digital! Online evites are often free, and help cut back on the four billion trees forested each year for paper products
- Create a menu that utilizes food with recyclable or zero packaging/wrappings
- Use reusable bags when grocery shopping
- Use tableware and cloth napkins that can be washed and used again
- Party decorations? Go without or decorate your affair with fresh flowers and evergreen trimmings that can be composted. Using, branches, fruits, leaves and dried flowers from your yard or local farmers market is a much "greener" approach
- Skip the plastic table cloths and use washable, reusable or recyclable paper table cloths to cover tables
- Candles are also a great way to create a festive atmosphere
- Leftovers? Use recyclable items such as aluminum to store any party leftovers. Aluminum can be crumpled up and thrown into the recycling bin

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## Having Troubles Coming Up with Ideas for Green Gifts this Holiday Season?

Can't think of what to get your neighbor, co-worker friend or family member? Fear not! Waste Management has a list of easy, cost-effective and useful gifts you can give to your loved one without taking too much from the environment - or your wallet!

1. **Consider a reusable gift:** Does your mom love to shop Consider getting her a reusable bag so she can bypass those plastic bags. Reusable bags and totes are now available in many stylish colors and makes these days and many of them are made out of recycled plastic water bottles! Because many cities are banning plastic bags - and may soon charge for each one - this gift will keep on giving because it will save her money each time. Got a co-worker who loves coffee? Consider purchasing a reusable mug instead of a gift card; he can save up to 10 cents per use at many participating coffee houses, like Starbucks.

2. **Give the gift of relaxation:** While another new tie for Dad might seem like a good idea, it will pale compared to a lesson for a round of golf. Everyone has something they love to do, and you can help them do it! Manicures for mom? Yes, please!

3. **Sustainability smells sweet:** If you'd like to get a more traditional gift, consider checking out sustainable creations like beeswax candles. Not only are these produced naturally, they are a great decoration, excellent for mood lighting and many come with great smelling scents. If candles aren't your thing, consider a tasty treat from your local farmer's market, like homemade jam or honey.

4. **Showcase your artistry:** You don't need to buy a gift to show your love! Perhaps a picture, painting or framed photograph could make a great gift as a decoration or to commemorate a moment. Your loved one will appreciate the effort and the Earth will, too!

Keep it simple and keep it green. For more information on Waste Management's sustainability initiatives, visit [www.thinkgreen.com](http://www.thinkgreen.com).

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**Waste Management Thanks You for being a valued partner!**

Feel free to contact us with any questions; we are here to serve you and your community. I can be reached at 801-282-8256.

Sincerely,

**Lance Allen**

Waste Management of Utah  
Public Sector Services

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