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# HOLIDAY P2 TIPS

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## GIFT BUYING

Purchase rolls of 36 exposures film instead of 12 exposures.

You'll reduce waste by 67% and save 40% of cost about \$4.

Better yet, use a digital camera

- Make gifts. A home-cooked meal or baked goodies is often appreciated.
- Consider non-material gifts. Tickets to a sporting event, movie, play, or concert are a real treat. A night of free babysitting for family and friends.
- Make a charitable donation in someone's name. Try to find an organization that complements the gift receivers interest, for example for a dog lover, give to the local animal shelter.
- Give a roll of postage stamps, especially appreciated by home bound or extended care residents.

## HOLIDAY CARDS

More than 2.65 billion holiday cards are sold each year in the U.S. The amount of cards could fill a football field 10 stories high. If we each sent one card less, we'd save 50,000 cubic yards of paper.

- Send e-greetings to family, friends and business associates who are on-line.
- Collect your child's artwork through out the year and use as a holiday card.
- Buy recycled-content cards and envelopes.
- Make gift tags from last year's holiday cards or use small pieces of extra wrapping paper.

## GIFT WRAPPING

During the holiday season alone, the average household generates three to ten bags of extra trash.

- Design your own gift-wrap by using paper grocery bags and add decorations such as drawings, stamped patterns, cut pictures from magazines, or last year's holiday cards.
- Get out the finger paints, markers, and crayons and let your children design their own wrapping paper.
- Purchase gift bags, especially non-holiday bags that can be used later in the year
- Hide large or hard to wrap gifts somewhere in the house or yard.
- Create a scavenger hunt to lead them to the present.
- Use decorated boxes, add a bow and gift tab, and then reuse the boxes and bows next year.
- Set aside a box to collect the ribbons, bows and other package decorations.
- Wrap gifts in a gift. Use dishcloths or bandanas, holiday tins, and jewelry boxes.

## REUSE IS BEST

If every family reused just two feet of holiday ribbon, the 38,000 miles of ribbon saved could tie a bow around the entire planet.

- Save boxes, bows and ribbons and use them again.
- Save packing peanuts or bring them to a mailing company such as Mail Box Etc.
- Use newspaper as packing, and then recycle the paper.
- Buy an artificial tree.
- Cut Christmas trees can be chipped and shredded for mulch.