



RECYCLING ON THE HOLIDAYS

Social Media Guide for Recycling on Holidays

The N.C. Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service (DEACS) has developed *Recycling on the Holidays* to encourage recycling and reduce contamination during the holidays. The social media posts below coordinate with the *Recycle Right NC* information campaign materials designed for use by local recycling programs and private recycling collectors.

Together, we can recycle more and recycle better. #RecycleRightNC

POST IMAGE	TEXT FOR FACEBOOK AND TWITTER POST CAPTION		
 <p><i>Show Off Your Recycling this Valentine's Day!</i></p> <p>Recycling Dos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wine bottles • Beer cans • Shipping boxes from online orders • Cardboard boxes from flowers shipped in the mail • Envelopes <p>Recycling Don'ts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candy wrappers • Wine glasses • Diamond rings • Cellophane from flowers • Cards that play music or with glitter or other decorations 	<p>In a recent study, 62% of Americans considered it a turn-off if somebody doesn't recycle. Impress your date by knowing you can recycle the wine bottle but not the wine glass. #RecycleRightNC</p>	 <p>HAPPY EARTH DAY!</p> <p>CELEBRATE EARTH DAY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on the first of the 3 Rs — REDUCE your consumption. • Use reusable produce bags instead of plastic ones. • Visit a local farmers market for fresh produce, meats and cheeses. • Bring lunch in a glass container or jar. • Carry washable utensils and a cloth napkin in your bag or lunch box. • Remove yourself from mailing lists. 	<p>A tisket, a tasket—Repurpose that basket! #RecycleRightNC</p> <p>Celebrate Earth Day by making some simple changes! #RecycleRightNC</p>
 <p>HAVE A HAPPY ECO-FRIENDLY EASTER!</p> <p>EGGSHELLS AND FOOD SCRAPS</p> <p>Eggshells and food scraps can be composted! Crush eggshells and chop food scraps into smaller pieces to help them break down faster. Avoid composting eggs that have been decorated with anything other than dye and remove decorations such as stickers and glitter.</p>	<p>A waste-free Easter is egg-citing! #RecycleRightNC</p>	 <p>HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY</p> <p>BE RED, WHITE, BLUE AND GREEN THIS MEMORIAL DAY</p> <p>Plan ahead and check with your recycling and waste services for collection schedule changes over the holiday weekend.</p>	<p>#RecycleRightNC</p>
 <p>HAVE A HAPPY ECO-FRIENDLY EASTER!</p> <p>CANDY WRAPPERS</p> <p>Chocolate eggs, bunnies and other sweets are very popular at this time of year. Unfortunately, they often come in a lot of unrecyclable packaging. Opt for minimally packaged alternatives that are locally-made; organic or fair-trade; make your own; or skip the chocolate altogether and give longer-lasting gifts such as seeds for the garden.</p>	<p>Think ahead- Don't be left with trash after your Easter egg hunt! #RecycleRightNC</p>	 <p>10 WAYS TO REDUCE PLASTIC POLLUTION</p> <p>1. WEAN YOURSELF OFF DISPOSABLE PLASTICS</p> <p>90% of plastics in our daily lives are used once and then tossed: grocery bags, plastic wrap, disposable cutlery, straws and coffee-cup lids. There are reusable alternatives: bring your own bags to the store; silverware to the office; or coffee mug to your favorite coffee shop.</p>	<p>Unhappy that ALL plastic can't be recycled? Make sure you are part of the real change — Reduce your use and change our disposable culture! #RecycleRightNC</p>
 <p>HAVE A HAPPY ECO-FRIENDLY EASTER!</p> <p>ARTIFICIAL GRASS</p> <p>Plastic and nylon grass used in Easter baskets is not recyclable and should be thrown in the trash. Try reuse or recycled alternatives like a scarf or shredded magazine pages.</p>	<p>Are you grass-ping to reduce waste this Easter? Here's a tip! #RecycleRightNC</p>	 <p>10 WAYS TO REDUCE PLASTIC POLLUTION</p> <p>2. STOP BUYING WATER</p> <p>Each year, about 20 BILLION plastic bottles are tossed in the trash. Carry a reusable bottle in your bag. Worried about the water quality? Find a reusable bottle with a built-in filter.</p>	<p>Unhappy that ALL plastic can't be recycled? Make sure you are part of the real change — Reduce your use and change our disposable culture! #RecycleRightNC</p>

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3. BOYCOTT MICROBEADS

Found in many facial scrubs, toothpastes and body washes, those beads might look harmless, but their tiny size allows them to slip through water treatment plants. They also look like food to some marine animals. Instead, opt for products with natural exfoliants like oatmeal or salt.

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4. COOK MORE

Not only is it healthier, but making your own meals doesn't involve takeout containers or choppy bags. When you do order in or eat out, tell the restaurant you don't need any plastic cutlery or bring your own food storage containers to restaurants for leftovers.

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5. PURCHASE ITEMS SECONDHAND

New toys and electronics come with all kinds of plastic packaging. Search the shelves of thrift stores, neighborhood garage sales or online postings for items that are just as good when previously used. You'll save yourself a few bucks, too.

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6. RECYCLE

Confused about what can and can't go in the bin? Check out www.recyclenc.org for more information!

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7. REFUSE TO USE PLASTIC BAGS

1% of plastic bags are returned for recycling. Instead, bring your own bag to the grocery store, farmer's market, or retail shop. If you forget, juggle your items back to the car!

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8. BUY IN BULK

Select the bigger container. Instead of buying several smaller and single-serving sizes over time.

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9. BRING YOUR OWN GARMENT BAG TO THE DRY CLEANER

Invest in a zippered fabric bag, and request that your cleaned items be returned in it instead of in plastic. Try to avoid a dry cleaner that uses perchloroethylene, a toxic chemical found in some cleaning solvents.

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10. PUT PRESSURE ON MANUFACTURERS

If you believe a company could be smarter about its packaging, make your voice heard. Write a letter, send a tweet or give your money to a more sustainable competitor.

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Celebrate your Independence... from needless waste! Happy July 4th!
#RecycleRightNC



Don't get spooked by your recycling bin!
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Did we spook you with the recycling No's? Contamination is creepy so when in doubt, keep it out! No need to guess what's a yes! Bottles, tubs, jugs and jars, cans, boxes and paper can be recycled throughout most of NC. Check your community's guidelines [here](#).



Celebrate America Recycles Day by finding out for sure what goes in your recycling cart! NC is the first state with a map to find the recycling guidelines for your location. Click [here](#) to try the map and then share this post with your friends!
#RecycleRightNC



Take these tips and you'll be grateful to be making less waste! Happy Thanksgiving from us!
#RecycleRightNC



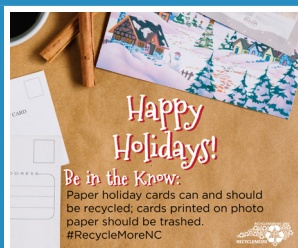
Not everything can be recycled during the holidays — but cardboard is a YES! #RecycleRightNC



Did you know you can't recycle bows? Brown paper packages tied up with string — those are a few of our favorite things! #RecycleRightNC



Did you hear you can't recycle wrapping paper? Brown paper packages tied up with string — those are a few of our favorite things! #RecycleRightNC



Which holiday cards are recyclable? Paper ones! #RecycleRightNC



The N.C. Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service (DEACS) is a non-regulatory division of N.C. DEQ offering technical and financial assistance to businesses, manufacturers, local governments, institutions, economic developers and citizens in environmental management. For questions, call 1-877-623-6748. www.recyclenc.org

