

Zero Waste Holiday Gift Forum

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Why zero waste?

'Tis the season to be wasteful?

- 25% increase in household waste between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day (EPA)
- Landfills stink!
 - Methane is a potent greenhouse gas
 - Groundwater pollution
 - Take up valuable habitat (for plants, animals, & people)
 - Waste valuable resources
 - Sited disproportionately in impoverished and minority communities (Tuffs)



How to give zero waste

Intentional giving starts with the 5 Rs

Refuse



Reduce



Reuse



Rot



Recycle



Tips and Tricks

Give experiences, not things



- Tickets to shows, plays, fairs, concerts, or movies
- Gifts certificates to their favorite restaurant, museum, or coffee/tea shop
- Take them out to lunch (plan a time ASAP)
- Go camping or ice skating with them
- Give to a charity they care about

Resources for giving and getting experiences

- Customizable Wishlist and App
- 46 Ways to Give Experiences
- General
- House Building Registry
- Honeymoon
- Funeral/Memorial
- Baby Registry



Edibles and consumables

Be kind to your recipient ...

you will be giving them a way to
appreciate your thoughtfulness without
you expecting to see the gift in their
house when you come over for their
Fourth of July BBQ



Edibles and consumables

- Food Runners





Edibles and consumables

- Buy ingredients in 'bulk' in reusable containers or bags
- Serve on reusable dishware



Think Long term and multifunctional

- Give second hand (less new stuff, less waste)
- Go digital with cards, so as not to clutter other's homes
 - If you love cards, make it a single sheet, no envelope
- Avoid things labeled with the year
- Avoid holiday specific decor or knick knacks
 - Not another snowflake ornament
 - Not another bedazzled holiday picture frame





Trashy is the new classy

- Reuse old wrapping materials (or cereal boxes, packing material, etc.)
- Stamp your own wrapping paper
- Reuse other paper as wrapping (e.g. maps)
- Furoshiki (reusable cloths for wrapping)
- Avoid store bought wrappings (or make sure it is paper and recyclable)

Keep it real (and compost it!)

- No fake-y plastic stuff
 - Breaks easily
 - Trendy = \$pendy
 - Landfill destined
- Use natural clippings to decorate gifts
- When some unexpected waste sneaks in
 - Be **realistic** with your own process
 - (channel frustrations into writing a packaging review for Amazon)



Thoughtful decor

- Ensure it is reusable, compostable, or recyclable
- Maintain traditions without the waste
- More [holiday party tips](#) from SF Environment



Don't be the Grinch!

Nobody likes to be grinched at

- Make it fun, beautiful, and meaningful, so it will last
- Give people time (start talking about next year now.)
- *Don't harp on people* who are not ready for change or who gave you the 'wrong' thing.
- START WITH YOURSELF!
 - Communicate thoughtfully (ask for experiences instead of things)



Presidio Successes!

Shout Outs

- Landscape Shop for sustainable decor and gifts
- Park Development and Operations Division BBQ and Employee Satisfaction Training for using reusable silverware
- Hospitality for implementing sustainability guidelines for event venues and caterers
- 12/16 Thanksgiving Potluck with reusable dishware, real decor, and composting
- Snacks today with ingredients grown in the Community Gardens
- off the Grid's high landfill diversion rate (81%)
- Sustainability Stewards Dec. Drop in Program Dec. 8th

2016 Season of Presidio Picnic & Twilight

In partnership with Off the Grid (OTG) and Clean Vibes, Presidio Picnic and Twilight events have committed to more sustainable practices.

Waste Diverted
43 TONS 81% Diversion Rate

OUR GOALS:

- #1 ON-SITE RECYCLE & COMPOST SORTING
- #4 WATER BOTTLE BAN
- #2 COMPOSTABLE DISHWARE
- #3 ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION:

NEW To Main Post ROUTE 43 April PresidioGo Users 116% INCREASE
FREE On-Site Bike Valet 300 USERS Y Bike Learn to Ride FREE
FREE Bike Helmet give away RIDE SHARE Drop-Off Location

MORE INFO:



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Questions?

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