

Recycle More this Holiday Season

Americans throw away more trash during the holiday season than any other time of year. The good news is much of it can be recycled. To help you recycle more this holiday season, please remember these tips:

- Most wrapping paper and paper gift bags are recyclable. Those with foil, glitter, ribbons or bows cannot be recycled.
- Tissue paper cannot be recycled.
- Greeting cards and envelopes are recyclable, as long as they do not contain foil or glitter or other decorations.
- Cardboard boxes should be flattened and placed in your recycle cart. Cut larger boxes into smaller pieces so they fit loosely inside the cart. Over-stuffed carts may not empty completely. Boxes left next to recycle carts will be collected with trash and won't be recycled. If you have more than will fit, save it for the following week.
- Styrofoam packaging is not acceptable in curbside recycling carts.
- Christmas lights, extension cords, garland, wreaths, tinsel and other decorations are not recyclable.

Visit www.recyclingsimplified.com for more tips from Republic Waste Services.

Christmas Tree Recycling

Don't throw away your live Christmas tree when the holidays end; give it a new life by recycling it into mulch. To make recycling simple, two convenient options will be available:

- **Drop Off** - Bare Christmas trees can be dropped off Dec. 26 through Jan. 2 in the parking lots of Green Valley Park, 7701 Smithfield Rd., and the Dan Echols Center, 6801 Glenview Dr. Please place trees in the marked dumpsters.
- **Curbside Collection** - Place your Christmas tree curbside by 7 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 8 or Wednesday, Jan. 12. (Trees placed curbside on other garbage collection days will be put in the landfill and not recycled.) If the tree is taller than 5 feet, please cut it in half.

In order for trees to be recycled they should be free of tinsel, ornaments, bags, plastic and stands. Flocked trees are not accepted for mulching but can be placed at your curb for regular trash collection.

Mulch from recycled trees will be available for residents to pick up at the two drop-off locations Jan. 5 through 9, while supplies last. Please bring your own container and shovel to load the mulch. Please contact Neighborhood Services at 817-427-6650 with any questions.

Holiday Closings / Collection Schedules

Christmas Holiday - City Hall and other non-emergency city offices will be closed on Friday, Dec. 24 in observance of the Christmas holiday. The Animal Adoption & Rescue Center, Library, NRH Centre and Richland Tennis Center will be closed Friday and Saturday, Dec. 24 and 25. Iron Horse Golf Course will be open Dec. 24 for early morning rounds only and will be closed on Dec. 25.

There is no change to the residential garbage and recycling collection schedule. Collections will take place on your usual days.

New Year's Holiday - City Hall and other non-emergency city offices will be closed on Friday, Dec. 31 in observance of the New Year's holiday. The Animal Adoption & Rescue Center, Library and Richland Tennis Center will be closed Friday and

Saturday, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1. NRH Centre and Iron Horse Golf Course will be open both days. Please contact either facility for their holiday hours.

There will be no change to the residential garbage and recycling collection schedule. Collections will take place on your usual days.

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - City Hall and other non-emergency city offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 17 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The Library, Animal Adoption & Rescue Center, Senior Center and Richland Tennis Center will also be closed. The NRH Centre and Iron Horse Golf Course will be open.

There will be no change to the residential garbage and recycling collection schedule. Collections will take place on your usual days.

Be a Responsible Pet Owner

Pet ownership is very rewarding, but it also comes with responsibilities. Following are some things you should remember as a responsible pet owner:

Spaying / Neutering - Having your pet spayed or neutered helps reduce pet over population and the number of unwanted animals that end up in animal shelters.

Rabies Vaccination - State law and city ordinance require all pets to be current on their rabies vaccination. If your pet is ever involved in a bite and its rabies vaccination is not current, it will be quarantined at the animal shelter or a veterinary clinic.

Pet License - Residents are required to license their pets with the city each year. Licenses may be obtained at www.nrhtx.com/petlicense or at the Animal Adoption & Rescue Center, 7301 Iron Horse Blvd. The cost is \$10 for pets that have been spayed or neutered. This fee is waived for citizens 65 and older. The fee for unaltered pets is \$31.

Leash Law - Dogs should be kept on leashes while at parks, on walking trails and in neighborhoods. While most dogs are friendly and nice, some residents may be scared if they are approached by a dog they do not know. With your dogs on a leash, you will have better control over where they go and who they approach so that others will not be fearful or possibly get hurt. Cats should always remain indoors.

Pooper Scooper Law - Animal owners are responsible for the removal of pet waste on public walks, recreation areas, or private property. Not only does this keep the odor down and the areas clean, but it also helps keep disease from being spread and reduces the number of rodents attracted to the area.

Barking Nuisance - Barking is a natural dog behavior and most people want their dogs to bark to alert them to potential danger. However, owners who permit their dogs to bark excessively are permitting a public nuisance to occur and can be issued citations. There are many reasons dogs bark. They may be lonely, bored, protective, territorial or uncomfortable being outside for long periods of time. Pay attention when your dog is barking to determine why and take steps to address it. Work cooperatively with neighbors to look for patterns of excessive barking to help determine the cause. Talk to your neighbors and show them that you are aware of the problem and that you are taking responsibility.

For more information, please contact the Animal Adoption & Rescue Center at 817-427-6570.

New Business Spotlight

The Center NTX

5555 Rufe Snow Dr., Ste. 300, 817-231-9789
www.thecenterntx.com

V's House (Restaurant)

8743 W. Bedford Euleess Rd., 682-777-3690
www.vshouse.net

*Support local businesses.
Shop NRH first!*

Shop NRH This Holiday Season

With the holiday season upon us, shopping in North Richland Hills should be at the top of everyone's to do list. From unique locally owned stores to national chain retailers, you can complete your holiday gift buying and enjoy your shopping experience right here at home in North Richland Hills.

When you shop locally you not only support your neighbors who work at and own businesses in our community, you also ensure that your sales tax dollars are reinvested where they belong — in your community. Every dollar you spend in the City of North Richland Hills helps support city services like public safety, streets and parks.

Your purchasing choices can have a big impact on the local community and economy. If you're not sure where to start, ask your friends and neighbors for a list of their favorite NRH businesses. If you find a local business with exceptional service, be sure to leave them a good review and tell others about it.

Holiday Lights on Hawk Ave

Take a stroll down Hawk Avenue by the NRH Centre and NRH Library to enjoy thousands of twinkling lights, the city's 46-foot-tall Christmas Tree and other holiday scenery. The lights will be on **nightly through Jan. 2**. The area provides many opportunities for your holiday photos, so don't forget your camera!

Recycling of Cooking Oils & Grease

Don't pour cooking oil and grease down the drain where it can clog pipes, recycle it instead. NRH Public Works will collect used cooking oils and grease for recycling **Jan. 6 - 10**. Containers holding discarded oil and grease must be made of plastic and have a screw top lid. This program is for residents and excludes commercial users. Please call 817-427-6440 to arrange a pick up or get more details. Learn more at www.ceasethegreasentx.com.