

### CREATING A SUSTAINABLE HOLIDAY SEASON

The holiday season is a joyous time of year, with celebrations, gifts, and time spent with loved ones. Unfortunately, it also can lead to an increase in the amount of waste we generate and the energy we use. Between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, Americans increase their landfill-bound waste by about 25%. Being mindful about managing your household's waste this holiday season is one of the greatest gifts you can give to the Earth and ultimately to our families and our future. Follow some of the simple, cost saving tips below to ensure that your celebrations are more sustainable.

#### GREEN HOLIDAY SHOPPING

- ▶ Give gifts that allow others to be more sustainable such as a cookbook for leftovers.
- ▶ Give the gift of experiences such as gift certificates to local museums, concerts, restaurants, etc.
- ▶ Make your own gifts: edible gifts such as breads, cookies, jams/jellies. Knit a scarf, or crochet a hat. Make a calendar by using family photos.
- ▶ Bring your own reusable tote bag when shopping.

#### HOLIDAY FOOD & GREEN PARTIES

- ▶ Plan your menu and exactly how much food you'll need to minimize food waste.
- ▶ Avoid buying individually packaged drinks.
- ▶ Serve your guests with reusable cups, plates, silverware, and utensils.
- ▶ Ask guests to bring reusable containers for leftovers.
- ▶ Donate leftover food to local food banks. Compost food that is not donated.

#### HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

- ▶ Use Energy Star qualified LED lights. Recycle your old holiday lights. Big box stores offer a holiday light exchange programs or recycle them at your local scrap metal dealer.
- ▶ Skip the tree tinsel and avoid buying plastic decorations.
- ▶ Create holiday decorations from nature. Gather evergreen branches, berries, flowers, fresh fruit, etc. to make holiday arrangements.
- ▶ Cut trees are a greener choice than artificial trees.

#### GIFT WRAP, HOLIDAY CARDS, AND PACKAGING

- ▶ Wrap your gifts in re-usable bags. Learn how to make them in this Instagram video.
- ▶ Make the wrapping part of a gift. Gardening pots are easy to fill with gardening supplies. A mixing bowl makes an excellent package for your favorite cook.
- ▶ Gift bags/baskets are a great wrapping alternative and can be used over and over again. Save clothing boxes, ribbons, bows, and wrapping paper to reuse next year.

### MANAGER'S REPORT

Fall is here, and we're enjoying the cooler temperatures! It's been a busy year at the landfill, and we don't expect to slow down as we approach the end of the year.

The new 11-acre cell we started constructing in May was completed and certified in early October. We began a large landfill gas project the last week of October, and it is going well. There will be 23 added wells, six horizontal gas collection lines, and multiple new connections to existing gas wells.

The installation of these new wells is one of the many ways we work to help minimize odors and capture the methane to convert to renewable natural gas. All eight solar odor misters are running, in addition to misters at

the working face. The new gas wells, combined with the misters installed this year, help to reduce odors.

With the recent precipitation, grass has finally begun to grow on the slopes.

As a reminder, our landfill is open to the public Monday – Friday from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Saturday from 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

In closing, your neighbors here at the Atascocita Landfill would like to wish you and your family a happy and peaceful holiday season.



**STEVEN RAMIREZ**  
Sr. District Mgr

#### Atascocita Recycling and Disposal Facility

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#### Public Landfill Hours

Monday- Friday: 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Saturday: 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Sunday: Closed



Follow us!



IT'S TIME TO  
**DONATE**



**FAMILYTIME CRISIS  
& COUNSELING CENTER**



**FAMILYTIME CRISIS AND COUNSELING CENTER**  
provides life saving services to survivors of domestic  
violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking.  
FamilyTime operates the only shelter in Northeast Harris  
County serving women, men, and their children affected  
by interpersonal violence.

## Winter Essentials Drive

With cooler temperatures, FamilyTime is in need  
of clothing items sizes S-2XL for women & men  
residing in the shelter. Items needed most are:

- Cotton Pajamas
- Slippers
- Night Shirts
- Sweats
- Lightweight/Fleece  
Zip-Up Jackets
- Gift Cards\*

- *\*Walmart, HEB/Kroger,  
Walgreens/CVS, Gas Cards.*
- *Gift cards help clients cover  
the cost of medications,  
gas, groceries, and  
essentials for themselves  
and their children.*



**DROP OFF  
BY DEC. 8<sup>TH</sup>**

**ATASCOCITA  
LANDFILL  
3623 Wilson Rd  
Humble, TX**



**Atascocita Recycling and Disposal Facility**  
3623 Wilson Road  
Humble, TX 77396

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS  
FROM YOUR TEAM AT**

