



RCBC

Christmas 2014 Presents...

## Ecofriendly Gift Wrap Guide



Wrapping paper is a huge part of holiday waste. Here are some alternatives to wrapping paper that keep gifts looking colourful and festive:



**Cloth Bags:** Hand sewn or store bought can make a present look festive and can be reused as errand or lunch bags after the holidays.



**Book or Magazines:** Add a personal touch by using pages from a favourite story.



**Newspaper:** Excellent for larger gifts - use cartoon or sport sections for colour.

**Drawings or Paintings:** Seasonal pictures on paper bags make great gift wrap.



**Maps:** Add a sense of adventure to your gifts!

**Gifts:** Make the wrapping part of the gift! Use backpacks, scarves, even clothing.



**Natural Items:** Pinecones or pressed flowers jazz up gifts more than ribbons!

**Tape-Free:** To minimize the amount used, make tightly creased folds when you wrap, or tie the package up tightly with reusable yarn or twine.



**Packing Material:** Use unsalted peanuts in the shell, popcorn, or fabric to secure gifts in boxes. Avoid bubble wrap or foam chips which are hard to recycle.

Before placing your wrapping paper in your curbside or community recycling bins, make sure that it is 100% paper. Unlike office paper, some gift wraps contain heavy inks, glitter, and foil that can't be recycled. Tissue paper is also not accepted for recycling.

Not sure if your packaging is recyclable?  
Give the RCBC Recycling Hotline a call!

**If everyone in Canada wrapped just 3 gifts in reused paper or gift bags, it would save enough paper to cover 45,000 hockey rinks!**

*(Source: Regional District of Nanaimo)*



Want more ecofriendly gift wrap ideas? Need more information on packaging?

Visit [www.rcbc.ca](http://www.rcbc.ca) or call Lower Mainland: 604-732-9253 Toll-Free: 1-800-667-4321

