

## GREENING BEESTON'S CHRISTMAS TIPS

We're dreaming of a Green Christmas ...

### CARDS AND WRAP

- Buy recycled wrapping paper and cards.
- Reuse old paper, if you can.
- Avoid glitter (it can't be recycled).
- For wrapping paper: avoid foil or glitter.
- Try the scrunch test: crumple a bit of the paper, then open your hand – it's only recyclable if stays scrunched up.
- Use reusable wrap – e.g. bags, cloths, scarves & real ribbons ...
- Buy smaller cards (less to recycle), or send e-cards.

### TREE

- Recycle your tree after use; or, better, keep for next year.
- Grow your own tree & keep it (remember to water it in the summer).
- Make your own tree – P.T.O. to see our sustainable Christmas tree.
- Use LED lights but not battery-operated; or solar-powered, if outdoors.

### DECORATIONS

- Use natural decorations on the tree - berries, twigs, cones, ...
- Reuse decorations from before - they can become family heirlooms.
- Make your own decorations, from waste items, e.g. sweet papers, ...
- Use berries & small branches, holly sprigs or ivy to decorate your house.

### FOOD

- As much as possible, cook food that's in season and grown locally.
- Freeze left over food to use later (wash uncooked fruit or veg. first).
- Compost leftovers, but *only* if it can't be used straight away or frozen.
- Try eating more vegetarian or vegan food.
- If you have visitors, avoid buying food that *you* don't like; then you can eat it up if the visitors don't finish it.

[greeninginbeeston.weebly.com](http://greeninginbeeston.weebly.com)



*Keep everything you can to reuse next year.*

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## GREENING BEESTON'S CHRISTMAS TIPS

### PRESENTS

- Choose wooden toys, rather than plastic.
- Make presents yourself, e.g. cooking, sewing, ...
- Give a charity gift - e.g. pay for a goat for a family or a child's school desk, from Oxfam.
- Give a second hand present - e.g. a book you have read and enjoyed.
- Avoid presents that use electricity or batteries unnecessarily.

*Give unwanted presents to charity.*

### TRAVEL

- Don't take more luggage than you need and use public transport whenever possible, or find people to do a car-share.



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In 2012, and several other years since, we made a tree with a very low carbon footprint. Apart from the lights our trees had zero carbon emissions, since each was made from small branches from a local tree and decorated with recycled items & natural objects. Then they were composted afterwards.

LED lights were chosen, because they use much less electricity than normal lights, in this case 0.8 watts.

We had fun making the decorations, some with green messages on them.

Find out more at: <https://greeninginbeeston.weebly.com/christmas-tree.html>



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