

Musings and News Things

From Organizers Northwest

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Living Green For The Holidays (Green Living Part 2) Gifts and cleaning and guests, oh my!



GREENPOSTING

Uniting and empowering a community of individuals and businesses that practice and believe in sustainable living
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Getting organized goes green! Stop unnecessary buying, organize to make things easy to find...no more buying to replace misplaced items. Organize to pare down, then donate items that are cluttering your life...it's "ultimate recycling". Your second hands become someone else's first hands.

Be Green Savvy For The Holidays

Here are our top 5 picks for harmonious ways to green up your holidays without sacrifice.

- Holiday Trees and Wreaths. If your holidays include a Christmas tree go green and rent a potted tree from [The Living Christmas Tree Company](#) here in Portland. If you're debating between a real or an artificial one, choose REAL.



According to a press release from the Ontario Forestry Association in Canada "Christmas trees are grown on farms specifically for the holiday, and while growing, they take carbon dioxide out of the air, provide wildlife habitat and provide soil and water retention. Real Christmas trees are also . . . 100 per cent biodegradable, unlike artificial trees, which are often transported halfway around the world and are made from a non-biodegradable petroleum based product that requires a lot of energy during the manufacturing process."

- Gifts. Step away from the deluxe foot spas, the \$99 heart-shaped pendants, and the ThighMaster. How about gift certificates for non-consumables such as restaurants, spas, movies, or car washes? Another great idea, purchase a gift certificate for organizing services from [Organizers Northwest](#). Less Mess. Less Stress. Better Life.
- Clean out your closets for the holidays. Consignment shops can turn your trash into cash. Cha-ching! Katelyn's Closet, in Multnomah Village, is a great place to start. You can drop off quality women's, children's, and infant's items in good condition most days of the week. Mention that you saw them in the Organizers Northwest newsletter and you will receive 10% off any purchase through the end of December 2008. They are also

offering \$25 gift certificates for only \$20 through December. Call them for details. (503) 293-4333

- Gift Wrap and Holiday Cards. Cut back on the amount of paper and gift bags you purchase by choosing beautiful prints for ALL occasions, then when something comes up you will always have appropriate wrapping available. Even



better, buy products made of recycled paper, fabric remnants, and post-consumer paper material. [Oblation Papers and Press](#) is a Portland business that makes their products from 100% recycled fabric remnants. They even have cards that can be planted to give you the beauty of wildflowers when your home has been undressed of it's holiday decorative cheer.

Shop local. What better way to "go green" than to purchase locally produced goods and services. By supporting local businesses you are supporting your neighbors and in many cases reducing the amount of petroleum that goes in to making and shipping out-of-area goods. Find local businesses and reviews while supporting a local business, by going to the Portland based website www.greenposting.org. As always, when you hit the wall on organizing problems and just don't know where to turn, call or email us at Organizers Northwest. You can also visit us at our website OrganizersNW.com. We're here to help.

Happy Organizing,

Missy

Missy Gerber
Organizers Northwest
503-245-3564
OrganizersNW.com

