

Waste Festive Facts

The amount of wrapping paper estimated to be thrown away in the UK at Christmas could stretch around the equator nine times or to the moon if each sheet was laid end to end.

In the UK approximately 250 tonnes of Christmas trees that could have been recycled are simply thrown out after Christmas. Increasing numbers of local authorities provide either a doorstep collection service or set up local drop-off points where trees are gathered and sent for chipping and composting. The product is a rich biomass

that can be used as mulch or soil improver. Alternatively, you might want to buy a living tree that can be planted in the garden when you've finished with it.

Every year the UK throws out an estimated 4,500 tonnes of tin foil over the Christmas period. This is enough to cover around 1500 square miles - roughly the size of Suffolk!

An estimated 500 tonnes of Christmas tree lights are discarded in the UK over the Christmas period. If they are in good working order, you could think about donating

them to charity. Even lights that are beyond repair can be recycled!

13,350 tonnes of glass is thrown out in the UK during the festive season – from champagne and sherry bottles to mincemeat and cranberry sauce jars. Recycling all of them could save 4,200 tonnes of CO2 equivalent being produced, which is equivalent to taking around 1300 cars off the road for one year or to not taking around 630 around the world flights.

See page 20 for festive recycling ideas and tips

Don't forget to recycle your paper, glass and cans in your blue bag & green box this Christmas

recycle for Redcar & Cleveland

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