

Green Up your Holidays



It's time to get ready for some holiday cheer! What are your plans this year? Holiday parties, gift giving, traveling, food galore, and oh so much more. As you continue your holiday planning, consider adopting a few tips to help make your holidays not only a joyous occasion but also more sustainable!



Tip #1 – Shopping

Need gift giving ideas? Check out our second annual [Holiday Catalog on skyharbor.com](https://www.skyharbor.com/holiday-catalog). The 2018 Holiday Catalog features great ideas to shop and gift local from stores and restaurants like Bunky Boutique, Roosevelt Row and O.H.S.O. By gifting from local stores, you are helping invest in your local communities and overall economy.



Tip #2 – Choosing Gifts

Choosing the right gift can be both fun and challenging. This year, consider gifting experiences rather than things. Some ideas are: tickets to a museum, a gift card to a local restaurant, seats to a musical, vouchers for an escape room, cooking classes, paint nights, and so much more!

If you prefer to give something physical, think about the materials the gift is made from and the amount of packaging it's in. Handmade gifts and second-hand gifts are great options!



Tip #3 – Gift Wrapping

For wrapping, consider opting for bags or tins instead of wrapping paper, those can be re-used for years! If you insist on wrapping paper, use an option with no glitter or laminate so it can be recycled.

Newspaper and magazines can also be used as wrapping material. For those of you with a creative side you can try staining newspapers with tea or natural dye to create different colored wrapping!



Tip #4 – Food Leftovers

Dealing with lots of leftover food? If you have party guests, offer a take home leftover package.

Many food items can be frozen giving you plenty of time to think of ways to re-use them. If food has started to go bad, try at home composting or hire a company to pick up your food scraps.



Tip #5 – Decorating

When it comes to putting up lights consider switching to LEDs. This will help you save money and energy! Also, be sure to put your lights on a timer.

For house decorations try investing in items you can reuse rather than dispose. You can also try DIY decorations as a fun family project and you get bonus points if you can make them from items you would normally discard. The gift box decorations you see at our airport are all made from used shipping boxes that would have normally been thrown away.



Tip #6 – Giving Back

Being sustainable isn't just about creating a healthy planet, but also a healthy community. Phoenix Sky Harbor Volunteer Navigators are the inspiration for this tip. Like Sky Harbor Navigators, consider giving back this year by volunteering your time or donating money, food, or other supplies. Pick your favorite charity and consider looking into how you can help out this holiday season.