



recycle@  
townof  
northandover.com

Winter 2005



## Are you ready to recycle?

### Enforcement to begin January 31

We've been talking about it for months now, but the time has finally arrived. As of the end of this month, recyclables will no longer be collected if they are with your trash. Recyclables are banned from incinerators and landfills by state law and local bylaws. As a result, beginning January 31, if the waste collector sees recyclables with your trash, the recyclables will be tagged and left behind. The tag will explain how and where to recycle the items.

By eliminating recyclables from our trash, we will reduce the amount of waste headed to the incinerator and,

thus, lower our waste disposal costs. This helps keep costs down for residents and allows us to spend our tax dollars more wisely. For instance, by recycling all of our cardboard, which is just one of the banned items, we would be able to save at least \$85,000 a year in disposal costs at our current disposal rates!

In addition to the financial benefits of recycling, there are many other benefits as well. Manufacturing new products from recyclables preserves natural resources, creates less pollution, and uses less energy than making the same products from virgin, raw materials.

*This shows what will happen if a resident places recyclables with trash. The trash will be collected, but the recyclables will be left behind and tagged with an explanation of how and where to recycle the items.*



### Sorry, we are unable to pick up this item with your trash.

State and local laws ban recyclable materials such as this from the trash, and forbid us from picking them up with your trash.

Clean Cardboard can be disposed of in two ways:

1. Flatten and either fold or cut to a size not larger than 30" by 30". While bundling or bagging your cardboard is preferred for ease of pickup, flattened boxes may also be placed under your recycling bin, or standing up in or between recycling bins – OR –
2. Flatten and take to the Recycling Drop-off Center behind the DPW.

For instructions on how to dispose of other items properly, please see the North Andover DPW's recycling handout, a copy of which is available at the DPW's website or at the DPW (below).

Trash costs much more to dispose of than do recycled materials. Recycling saves your tax dollars and your environment.

North Andover Division of Public Works – 384 Osgood Street  
(978)685-0950 NorthAndoverRecycles.com

## Are the bans new?

No, the material bans are not new. Since the early 1990s, Massachusetts law has specified that many recyclable materials cannot be sent to disposal facilities. The materials that are banned from disposal facilities include:

- Recyclable paper, metal and glass containers, and narrow-necked plastic containers, which can be recycled at the curb and drop-off center in North Andover.
- Lead-acid automotive batteries, which are accepted at our semi-annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days or can be traded in at the automotive store when you purchase a new battery (there may be a fee).
- White goods, which can be collected at the curb by appointment with the Department of Public Works (there is a fee) or picked up by the company delivering your new appliance (there may be a fee).
- Leaves and yard waste, which can be mulched or composted at home or taken to the CYR Recycling Center on Sharpner's Pond Road.
- Tires, which can be traded in at the store when you purchase replacement tires (there may be a fee).
- Cathode ray tubes (such as most older TVs and computer monitors), which are accepted at the Department of Public Works site on the third Saturday of each month for proper disposal (there is a fee).

The action at North Andover's Annual Town Meeting last May to update the Town's General Bylaws to enumerate all of these banned items just brought our local code fully in line with state codes that had already been on the books for several years.

The decision to enforce the bans more actively grew out of a desire to lower the amount the Town was spending disposing of trash at the incinerator, as well as to fully comply with state law and, as a result, to be eligible for certain state programs and benefits.

For more information, read "Frequently Asked Questions About the Massachusetts Waste Bans" at [www.mass.gov/dep/bwp/dswm/files/wbgidy2k.doc](http://www.mass.gov/dep/bwp/dswm/files/wbgidy2k.doc).

## Currently seeking captains

The Neighborhood Recycling Program relies on resident-volunteers to help educate their neighbors about the Town's recycling programs and help with other recycling needs. Our goal is to have resident-volunteers, whom we call "Recycling Captains," for every part of our community. At present, only about 1/6 of our households have a designated Recycling Captain. As we expand and change our recycling program, we are seeking more Recycling Captains, hoping to provide Captains for 100 percent of our households.

Information and flyers are provided to

the Recycling Captains by Tina Klein, who serves as the coordinator of this program and chairs the North Andover Solid Waste Advisory Committee. The Captains distribute the information provided to their neighbors. Sometimes the information is about upcoming special events, such as the spring or fall Household Hazardous Waste Collections, and at other times it is simply recycling reminders. Some Captains print and distribute the flyers, while others pass the information along via e-mail.

The resident-volunteer gets to choose

(Continued on Page 4)

## Ch-ch-ch-changes

The changes to North Andover's recycling programs have been designed with you in mind. We want to make recycling easier and more convenient. These are the most significant changes to our program:

- You can now recycle ALL plastic containers marked with the recycling symbol. It doesn't matter what number is inside the symbol. We're accepting all plastic containers marked #1 through #7. (No plastic bags or foam, please.)
- Cardboard must be flattened to a size not larger than 30-by-30 inches. While bundling or bagging is preferred for ease of pickup, flattened boxes may also be placed under your recycling bin or standing in or between recycling bins. Unflattened boxes cannot be collected because our recycling truck is not equipped with a compactor.
- In the past, glass for recycling had to be segregated by color. Our processor, however, makes a glass aggregate by crushing and tumbling the glass. The aggregate has many uses, including road construction fill and drainage medium. Since our recycled glass is not melted down to be reused to make new glass containers, ANY COLOR

glass food or beverage container is now recyclable! Not only that, we are now able to accept Pyrex, drinking glasses, and ceramic for recycling, as well. (The only types of glass that we still cannot accept are those used in windows, also known as plate glass, windshields, and light bulbs.)

- Clean aluminum foil and aluminum pie plates are now accepted curbside and at the Recycling Drop-off Center. Metal jar lids are also okay.
- Fluorescent light tubes and bulbs will now be accepted at no charge at the DPW drop-off every third Saturday. Fluorescent tubes and bulbs should never be placed into your trash because they contain mercury.
- In addition to appliances, metal items weighing more than 60 pounds or taking two or more people to handle must also be recycled by making an appointment with the DPW. As with appliances, there will be a \$25 fee.
- Recycling is mandatory for all of the banned items (see article at left). If the trash collector sees recyclables with your trash, the recyclables will be left at the curb with a note describing how to properly recycle these items.



**Now that we're collecting more recyclables at the curb, you might find that your red bin won't hold everything. For a \$3 deposit, you can pick up a second red bin from the Dept. of Public Works. You can also create your own "satellite" recycling container by reusing a bin or container that you have. Stop by DPW for a free RECYCLE sticker to place onto your satellite container. Or, clearly mark it with waterproof marker.**

# recycled “bling bling”

Bling bling is that wonderful, gaudy stuff that says, “I’m here. Notice me.” And these days, there is plenty of recycled art that does just that. Whether you’re interested in the fancy, the functional, or the fun, there is probably recycled art out there to suit your taste—and your budget.

Artist Stewart Webb creates “technomontages” with old computer chips, used CDs, aerospace junk, lab-grown stones, and antique bakelite. These technomontages take the form of earrings, necklaces, pendants, clocks, and frames. Want to see more? Visit Webb’s site on the Internet, [www.arteco.com](http://www.arteco.com).

Everything from tote bags to clutches seems to be covered with brightly colored pictures—and have something to say. If you’re a little tired of French that you can’t read, why not look for something more familiar? There are wallets, purses, hobo bags, tote bags, and even duffles made from juice pouches. Or, if you’re interested in something a little spicier, keep an eye out for purses made from chip bags. You can see some of these bags at [www.Abernook.com](http://www.Abernook.com) or [www.YummyBags.com](http://www.YummyBags.com), or search for “recycled juice pouches” on the Internet.

Juice pouches and chip bags aren’t the only printed purses and bags available. Myrtlerose’s Attic is one of the many studios making purses from such treasures as Tyvek envelopes covered with used stamps, vintage children’s books, and old album covers. To see products made by Charlene at Myrtlerose’s Attic, as well as similar items such as the woven plastic bag tote, visit [www.StreetFairAmerica.com](http://www.StreetFairAmerica.com) and click on “Recycled Items.”



This bookshelf was made from old hardcover books. (Photo courtesy of eco-artware.com)

Art for the home and garden is often made from scrap, found, and waste objects, too. We’ve mentioned the clocks made from computer components. But there are also artists who make tableware, lamps, coffee tables, sculptures, wall hangings, and more from broken glass, corrugated cardboard, shoes, mesh bags, pop cans, and the list goes on.

If you are looking for recycled bling bling, search for “recycled art” on the Internet or go to [www.eco-artware.com](http://www.eco-artware.com).

Remember to patronize local artists and artisans. Around the corner from wherever we are, there are creative minds putting clever hands to work on found

objects as varied as wallpaper and wooden pallets. Check out their work at craft fairs, art shows, or gift shops.



Photo courtesy of Abernook.com

## X-treme Green at X Games

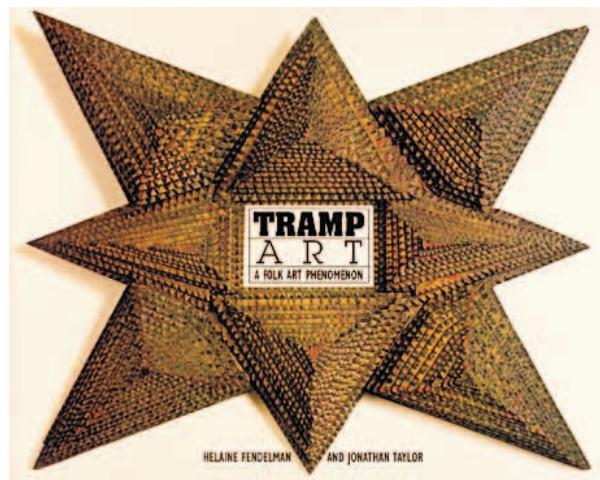
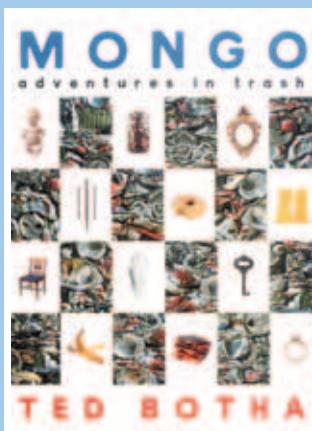


During August, sports fans got to enjoy the summer Olympics in Athens, Greece, and the X Games in Los Angeles, California. If swimming and beach volleyball were a little too tame for your family, chances are you might have watched the extreme stunts of skateboarders, bikers, and skaters at the X Games.

The X Games provided their usual thrills and chills—on a greener platform than usual. The ramps, including the new “Mega Ramp,” were all made from wood that came from forests that are environmentally friendly. (The Forest Stewardship Council certifies these forests.) In addition to these ramps, the Games featured a solar-powered sound system, recycling stations for fans and competitors, and collector cards printed on 100-percent recycled-content paper. Along with stats on the extreme athletes, these collector cards even provided some environmental facts.

## Magnificent MONGO

When journalist Ted Botha moved to New York City, he furnished his apartment with found objects. In the process, he learned that the city was full of dumpster divers and garbage gurus who gloried in “mongo.” (Mongo is a slang term that means “any discarded item that is retrieved.”) He has recorded their stories in *Mongo: Adventures in Trash* (Bloomsbury, 2004). Some of the stories are about collectors, and others focus on survivors, but all share a fascination with what might be found in the next bin or bag.



Recycled or found art has traditionally been considered part of “folk art.” Why? Because it is art made from materials that are readily available to regular folk living their everyday lives. Some of the most famous recycled folk art is “Tramp Art.” Tramp Art is three-dimensional art created from discarded cedar and mahogany cigar boxes. This wood was intricately carved, positioned, and glued to create picture frames, boxes, and small tables. Most of these were created around the beginning of the 20th Century by artisans, some of whom were travelers and others who were householders, but almost all of whom are now anonymous to us.

To see Tramp Art, visit a local antique store or go online to [www.folkartisans.com/trampart](http://www.folkartisans.com/trampart).

To read more about Tramp Art, look for these books: *Tramp Art: A Folk Art Phenomenon* by Helaine Fendelman and Jonathan Taylor (Stewart Tabori & Chang, 1999); *Tramp Art, One Notch At A Time* by Clifford A. Wallach (Wallach-Irons, 1998); and *Hobo & Tramp Art Carving: An Authentic American Folk Tradition* by Adolph Vandertie with Patrick Spielman (Sterling Publishing Company, 1995).

## What's new with WasteWise?

In 2004, WasteWise celebrated its 10th anniversary. WasteWise boasts nearly 1,400 business and organization partners representing more than 50 industry sectors and nearly 230 endorsers from 15 sectors. All of the partners and endorsers, who take part in this program voluntarily, are committed to reducing their waste and lowering their costs for waste handling and disposal.

WasteWise makes a difference one business and organization at a time. In 2004, 18 of the participants received awards for their achievements, and another 30 were recognized for their ongoing efforts.

For more information about WasteWise, visit [www.epa.gov/wastewise](http://www.epa.gov/wastewise), or call 1-800-EPA-WISE.



# 10 tips for a greener home

1. When you paint, choose latex. Latex is water-based for easier cleanup—and doesn't require disposal as hazardous waste. Better yet, choose latex without volatile organic compounds (VOCs). VOCs contribute to the formation of indoor and outdoor air pollution.
2. Need "new" furniture? Look for secondhand or antique furniture. Remember—when you reuse, no new product has to be made, saving energy and natural resources.
3. Recarpeting? Look for recycled-content carpet. Carpet can be made from recycled PET bottles. Ask about the recycled-content of the carpets you are considering.
4. If you are replacing appliances, choose energy-efficient "Energy Star" appliances. And remember to sell or donate old working appliances and recycle non-working appliances!
5. When it is time to replace your light bulbs, choose compact fluorescents. They use less energy and last much longer, creating less waste. (Compact fluorescents do contain mercury, so they require special disposal when they burn out. Call us for details.)
6. If you're adding on or building new, check out "green building" techniques and materials. During the project, donate or recycle leftover, scrap, and unused building materials and supplies. If your project includes demolition, look into deconstruction. With deconstruction, you can reduce your project waste by as much as 75 percent.
7. If you're building or rebuilding a deck, look for sustainably harvested wood or recycled plastic lumber. Consider recycled plastic fencing and outdoor furniture as well. It is sturdy and doesn't require painting.
8. Conserve water by installing low-flow showerheads and faucet aerators. You can also conserve water by selecting the correct water level when washing clothes (or washing only full loads if you don't have a water level adjustment). Run your dishwasher only when it is full.
9. When possible, avoid purchasing hazardous products, including cleaners. Read labels carefully. Buy only the amount you need. Follow instructions for use and disposal. Need disposal advice? Call us.
10. Purchase paper products, such as toilet paper, made from recycled paper. (If you buy paper napkins or paper towels, look for recycled-content paper in those, too!)



## Green-sources

American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy  
www.aceee.org

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of Energy "Energy Star" Program  
www.energystar.gov

Earth Easy's Guide to Living at Home with the Earth  
www.eartheasy.com/live\_menu.htm

Healthy House Institute  
www.hhinst.com

National Association of Home Builders' ToolBase  
www.toolbase.org/index-toolbase.asp

U.S. Green Building Council  
www.usgbc.org



# Better care for batteries

Flashlights, phones, handheld organizers, laptop computers...batteries power much of our daily lives. By making sure that your batteries last as long as possible, you can reduce waste and save money on replacements. Here are some tips to help you give your batteries a long and useful life.

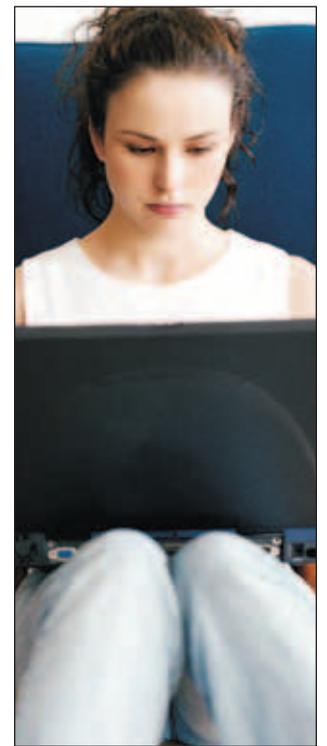
All batteries experience a certain amount of "self-discharge," meaning that they lose some power even when not in use. To reduce the amount of self-discharge that your batteries experience, store them in a cool, dry location. You can store batteries in the refrigerator, but put them into an airtight container and place them in the door, which is the driest part of the refrigerator. Be sure to let your batteries warm up to room temperature before using them.

Don't send a disposable to do a rechargeable's job! Many handheld electronics require high boosts of energy for short periods of time. Rechargeable batteries are the best batteries for this job. Rechargeables can be used as few as 50 to as many as a thousand times. While items like cell phones come with rechargeable batteries, you'll need to select and purchase rechargeables to be used in small appliances that take AAA, AA, C, D, and 9-volt batteries.

Rechargeable batteries come in many shapes, sizes, and chemical compositions. That means the instructions for how to use and recharge the batteries are not, unfortunately, "one size fits all." Whenever you buy rechargeable batteries or a new rechargeable product with a battery inside, read and follow the instructions carefully. Find out whether you can use the batteries right away or if they need to be "initialized," which is a one-time startup charging period. Learn if you are supposed to recharge when the battery gets low or wait until it is fully discharged.

Be sure that you are using the right charger or adapter for each battery. Chargers and adapters may look alike, but they are not necessarily interchangeable.

While this may all sound like a lot of work, knowing how to choose and care for your batteries will greatly improve their reliability, increase their life cycle, and save you money on costly replacements.



## Quotes REQUOTED

"Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do only a little."

Edmund Burke,  
British statesman, 1729–1797

## Now starring at Starbucks



Each year, customers across the country walk out of Starbucks stores with about 1.5 billion paper to-go cups. Beginning in 2005, those cups will feature something more than coffee—recycled paper.

Starbucks recently announced that the U.S. Food & Drug Administration had approved the use of paper cups with 10 percent recycled content. While 10 percent may not sound like much, consider that this will save about 5 million pounds of virgin tree fiber each year. Starbucks already uses recycled paper in cardboard cup sleeves, napkins, and drink carriers.

Remember—you can choose to reuse at Starbucks and other coffee shops. Many offer reusable mugs if you'll be staying to drink your coffee. Plus, most allow you to bring in your own mug and have it filled, often at a slightly discounted price. Ask about it where you fill up.

## Shred Pro owners donate service to assist Town, residents

North Andover residents Pete and Susan Murley approached the Town to offer a free paper shredding event for residents. As owners of Shred Pro, a business that shreds paper to ensure confidentiality, the Murleys guessed that some residents were probably storing paper rather than taking the chance that someone would pull it from a trash can or recycling bin and steal the name, address, or other information. They were right. One of the residents who delivered paper to be shredded brought all of her canceled checks—going back to 1964!

The Fall Shredding Event for household papers was held on Saturday, September 18. Residents were encouraged to deliver any sensitive documents, including those that

contained name, address, phone number, account numbers, financial information, signatures, and/or Social Security Numbers. The flyers advertised a rain-or-shine event—and there was a great deal of rain. Residents braved a downpour and forded puddles to deliver more than 2 tons of documents for shredding. This shredded paper was recycled.

Shred Pro will sponsor another free shredding event on Saturday, May 21. Look for more information in our spring newsletter. This service is for North Andover residents only. You must bring proof of residency when you deliver your paper.

Thanks to the Murleys and Shred Pro for providing this service at no cost to the Town or the participating households.



## Don't have a rain barrel?

Now is the time to get one!

Each year, the Town can apply for equipment grants offered by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. This year, 55-gallon rain barrels were among the items offered. If our grant is awarded, we would most likely take delivery of the rain barrels in the spring. The barrels will be sold to residents at a discounted price.

A rain barrel catches rain water flowing off the roof of a home and through a downspout that has been directed into the barrel. This water can then be used to water the lawn, garden, or plants, or to wash cars. By using a rain barrel, you can reduce your water bill and help reduce storm water runoff.

These rain barrels are made from recycled plastic.

If interested in purchasing a rain barrel or for more information, please e-mail [recycle@townofnorthandover.com](mailto:recycle@townofnorthandover.com).



**Sabrina Smits and Maddie Stephens, both 12, went trick-or-treating last fall as North Andover recycling bins. While Sabrina and Maddie were collecting candy, they were passing out information on North Andover's recycling program. What a great idea! Thanks, girls!**

## Begin with bags

If you are ready to ease into reuse, here's a great place to begin—shopping bags. For most consumers, a trip to the store means wondering what to do with a new pile of bags upon returning home. These bags are a great place to start the reuse habit. Here are some things you can do:

- Turn down the bag—especially when you are getting only one or two items. You can say, "No thanks, I'll just carry that." Or, go a step further and spread the word about reducing waste by saying, "I'll take it without a bag—no need to create extra waste."
- BYOB—bring your own bags! Whether you reuse old paper grocery bags, plastic shopping bags, canvas bags, string carri-



**Get your own fashionable, reusable, recycled-content "North Andover Recycles" tote bag.**

ers, or a backpack, you can provide your own containers to transport items home. While this might sound like more work, think of all the time you'll save dealing with the stores' bags after you put everything away!

- Invest in a "North Andover Recycles" tote bag. Not only are these bags reusable, they are also made from recycled soda bottles that have been turned

into a fabric called Eco-Spun. North Andover Solid Waste Advisory Committee received a donation of 100 tote bags from the North Andover Rotary Club and is selling the bags for \$5 each. The funds raised help support the NASWAC's recycling initiatives.

### Seeking captains (Continued from Page 1)

his/her coverage area. Volunteers can sign up for their own street, a portion of their street, or several streets. There are approximately 400 streets in town, and 60 of them have a Recycling Captain (see below). The smallest territory covered by a Recycling Captain is 12 houses, and the largest is about 100 houses.

We are looking to expand the program. If your street is not listed, we especially need your help. **We also need volunteers who are willing and able to work with elderly and/or handicapped residents as we transition into this new program.** If you are interested in learning more, e-mail [recycle@townofnorthandover.com](mailto:recycle@townofnorthandover.com).



### Streets with Recycling Captains

Amberville – Andover Street – Andrew Circle – Avery Park Drive – Barco Lane – Blue Ridge Road – Boston Street – Boxford Street\* – Breckenridge Road – Bucklin Road – Campbell Road – Cedar Lane – Christian Way – Coachmans Lane – Cranberry Lane – Dale Street\* – Dana Street – Deer Meadow Road – Dewey – Equestrian Drive – Forest Street\* – Glencrest – Granville Lane – Gray Street – Green Hill Ave. – Harold – Haymeadow Road – Hillside Road\* – Ingalls

Street – Johnson Street\* – Lacy Street – Leanne Drive – Maple Street – Marblehead\* – Meadowview Road – Milton Street – Monteriro Way – Nadine Lane – Old Village Lane – Osgood Street\* – Palamino – Penni Lane – Peterson Road – Pleasant Street\* – Quail Run Lane – Russett Lane – Sawmill Road – Sherwood Drive – Stonecleave Road – Surrey Drive – Tiffany Lane – Turtle Lane – Waverly\* – Webster Woods Lane – Windsor Lane – Winter Street\* – Woodlea Road  
\*Partial only



Leftover household hazardous waste (HHW) is often stored for years in basements, on garage shelves, or under sinks. The longer products are stored, the less likely they are to be used and the more likely they are to spill or leak. Make your home safer this spring, and get rid of leftover HHW safely. We accept HHW for recycling and safe disposal at spring and fall special collections. **Our Spring HHW Day will be Saturday, April 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Residents are allowed to drop off HHW at no charge. The Town pays for the collection and proper disposal of all of the HHW received.



### On Saturday, April 23, we'll hold our third annual Earth Day Cleanup.

During the first two years of the cleanup, more than 500 residents took part, picking up 75 cubic yards of trash and litter. In the past, trash bags have been donated by Rocky's Ace Hardware, Social Action Committee of North Parish Church, Stop and Shop, and Market Basket. The dumpster and tipping fees for disposal have been donated by Wheelabrator North Andover. It's not too early for you and your family to think about spring and a great community service project. Let us know you're interested by sending an e-mail to [recycle@townofnorthandover.com](mailto:recycle@townofnorthandover.com).



### Our Spring Yard Waste Collection will be held in April.

The exact dates will depend on when the snow melts. Check the recycling website ([www.northandoverrecycles.com](http://www.northandoverrecycles.com)) in early spring for exact dates. This collection is for branches that have come down over the winter. Bagged leaves are not collected in the spring. Branches should be left loose at the curb with the butt end facing the street because they will be put through a chipper at curbside.



The North Andover Solid Waste Advisory Committee is thinking about hosting a **community-wide yard sale weekend in late spring**. Participating households would pay a small fee to have their yard sale included in the advertising. If you would be interested in holding a yard sale during this town-wide effort or would like more information, send an e-mail to [recycle@townofnorthandover.com](mailto:recycle@townofnorthandover.com).



**Recycle those holiday trees!** After you remove all the decorations, stand, and tinsel from your family's cut holiday tree, give it another life with recycling. The tree must be loose—do not place the tree into an extra large tree bag. Place the bare and unbagged tree at the curb. It will be picked up on your regular trash day between January 3 and January 14.

**Look for this newsletter each quarter for up-to-date information on all of North Andover's recycling and waste reduction programs. Also, visit our website, [www.NorthAndoverRecycles.com](http://www.NorthAndoverRecycles.com), regularly for updates.**

**We want your suggestions, questions and comments!**

**NASWAC**

**c/o Department of Public Works**

**384 Osgood Street**

**North Andover, MA 01845**

**(978) 685-0950**

**[recycle@townofnorthandover.com](mailto:recycle@townofnorthandover.com)**

**[www.northandoverrecycles.com](http://www.northandoverrecycles.com)**

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