



## December 2020 Newsletter, Issue 3

# Happy Holidays



**2020 has been a rough year for all!  
Thank you for sticking with us through it.**

## How to Recycle Common Holiday Items

### Paper-based

- **Corrugated Boxes (Cardboard):** With all the extra online shopping this year you may have noticed how much more recycling you have produced at home. Remove non-paper materials such as packing peanuts and air pillows, flatten the boxes, place in the blue bag or stack them and tie them together. Make sure the material stays dry.
- **Catalogs:** Recyclable or you can [opt-out for free](#) to stop receiving them!
- **Greeting Cards and Envelopes:** The standard cards that do not include glitter or a plastic layer can all be recycled. The envelopes (even with the window) can also be recycled.
- **Paper Gift Bags:** Plain paper gift bags can be recycled. However, gift bags made with a mixed material such as plastic or foil is trash if they can not be reused. Remove any ribbon, rope or extras before recycling. When purchasing try to stick to the material that can be recycled, when possible.
- **Tissue Paper:** The plain tissue paper is fine to recycle. Just trash the glittery or plastic based paper.
- **Wrapping Paper:** Paper based is recyclable. Again anything with foil, plastic, glitter can not be recycled.
- **Ribbons and Bows:** Reuse these when possible and place in the trash when no longer wanted.



### Batteries & Electronics

- **Batteries:** are considered household hazardous waste (HHW). Klickitat County Solid Waste, Republic Services and the Washington State Department of Ecology work together to provide the residents of the county with free, safe disposal options for HHW. Each of the three transfer stations as well as the landfill offer a HHW drop site. For more information, go to our [HHW webpage](#). Batteries will and do explode! Please do not throw them away.
- **Electronics:** E-Cycle Washington is a free program that makes it easy for Washington residents to recycle their broken, obsolete or worn-out electronics. Televisions, computers, laptops, monitors, tablets, e-readers, portable DVD players are all accepted. Accessories such as keyboards and printers are not accepted.
- Find out more at [E-Cycle Washington](#).

**BATTERIES EXPLODE!**

Republic Services had multiple battery fires in 2020!

Do you know why batteries explode? Well it depends on the type of battery. Lithium-ion batteries, which are found for example in laptops, cellular phones, and power tools, have tiny fragments of metal inside of them. **When they get hot, those metal pieces move around and can come into contact with the separator inside of the battery.** If that happens it can:

- Create a spark, flammable liquid can ignite and **cause a fire**
- Cause a rapid increase in temperature creating an **explosion** due to the pressure
- Cause slower increase in temperature, causing battery to melt and the **liquid to leak out**

### Holiday Tree Disposal (Tree-cycling)

- You can take your tree to any of the [Republic Services Transfer Stations](#) for the normal per yard fee or take it directly to the [landfill for free](#).
- You can take your tree to [Dirt Huggers](#) in Dallesport, where it gets composted. They are offering a great deal for Klickitat County residents this year. You can drop off your tree on

- Mondays for FREE**, or you can drop it off any other business day for \$5, which is donated to the Klickitat County Fire Department. All decorations, including tinsel, must be removed.
- We do not have any information on organizations that will be offering pick-up/drop-off service this year, however if we learn of any we will post the information on [our webpage](#). If you have an organization that will be offering this service, please email the [Recycling Coordinator](#).



## Republic Services' Winter Weather Reminder

### Winter Trash and Recycling Collection

#### How you can help

During the winter months the refuse route drivers have a difficult time collecting due to the snow and ice. Here is how you can help:

- Keep your bin and bags out of the street to avoid snow plow blockages.
- Keep moisture out by securing the lid and tying recycling bags tight.
- If your recycling gets too wet it is no longer recyclable.
- Shovel a clearing around your container to make for easy and safe access for the drivers and trucks.
- Dumpster style bins need a clear path for the trucks from the road to the dumpster.

**If it can not be safely accessed, it will not be emptied!**

Sometimes conditions will cause us to run behind, but we will do our best to get there by the end of your collection day. Other times it may be impossible to collect on your trash day. If that happens we will notify you as soon as we can with information on your pickup.



**Klickitat County Solid Waste**  
127 W. Court Street  
Goldendale, WA 98620  
509-773-4448



**Republic Services**  
925 N. Fairgrounds Road  
Goldendale, WA 98620  
509-773-5825

## Plastic Market Update



### Key curbside plastic continues its pricing climb

The average price of natural HDPE bales have reached another record high this month.

[Read More](#)

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