Recycle your Christmas tree. Place your Christmas tree in yard/food waste (brown) pickup.

Holiday collection schedule:
- Garbage, Recycling, and Yard/food waste
- Friday, Dec. 27
- Saturday, Dec. 28

Get $30 to recycle that relic refrigerator while you can. Tacoma Power is offering $30 cash back and haul away when you swap your refrigerator for an energy efficient one. It’s time to unplug. Tacoma Power’s fridge recycling rebate program ends this year, so if your indoor plants need a boost, get them growing outside the container. Trees left outside the container closes flat. Trees left unflocked, undecorated tree components will get recycled. Your tree (unflocked, undecorated) gets recycled. Dispose of flocked trees in the first week of January. Trees will be picked up by the holidays. Your tree will be composted. For more info visit TacomaRecycles.org/collectioncalendar or contact PRSRT STD 7 47 Market Street, Room 408, Tacoma, Washington 98402-3769 (253) 591-5051. People with hearing or speech impairments may contact us through Washington Relay Services, 1-800-833-6388 (TTY or ASCII). If you need this information in an alternative format, please call (253) 591-5051.

Disposing of Christmas Day 2014
- Thursday, Dec. 26
- Friday, Dec. 27

Disposing of Thanksgiving 2014
- Thursday, Nov. 28
- Friday, Nov. 29

Fourth of July 2014
- Thursday, July 4
- Friday, July 5

New Year’s Day 2014
- Wednesday, Jan. 1
- Thursday, Jan. 2

Friday, Jan. 3
- Saturday, Jan. 4

Christmas Day 2014
- Wednesday, Dec. 25
- Thursday, Dec. 26

Tree disposal
- Friday, Dec. 27
- Saturday, Dec. 28

Recycling your garbage. Dispose of flocked trees in the first week of January. Trees will be picked up by the holidays. Your tree will be composted. For more info visit TacomaRecycles.org/collectioncalendar or contact PRSRT STD 7 47 Market Street, Room 408, Tacoma, Washington 98402-3769 (253) 591-5051. People with hearing or speech impairments may contact us through Washington Relay Services, 1-800-833-6388 (TTY or ASCII). If you need this information in an alternative format, please call (253) 591-5051.

Looking for a previous issue of EnviroTalk? Visit the TacomaRecycles.org/collectioncalendar website in late January at or a rebate:raingarden@cityoftacoma.org

For more info visit TacomaRecycles.org/collectioncalendar or contact PRSRT STD 7 47 Market Street, Room 408, Tacoma, Washington 98402-3769 (253) 591-5051. People with hearing or speech impairments may contact us through Washington Relay Services, 1-800-833-6388 (TTY or ASCII). If you need this information in an alternative format, please call (253) 591-5051.

The EnviroHouse is now home to four outdoor features that help manage our runoff and prevent pollutants like oil, pet waste, fertilizers, and toxic chemicals from washing into our streams. They filter pollutants out of stormwater and get rainwater to soak into the ground instead of flooding your yard. Rain gardens are attractive, low-maintenance, and create new habitats for local wildlife.

Enhancing your quality of life
- Plants growing in a special soil mix installed in Leach Creek watersheds
- Rain barrels, catch basins, and buffer strips
- Rain gardens, near the front porch of the house
- Snowmelt, on a roof

The idea is to make our neighborhoods work rather than flooding your yard. They filter pollutants out of stormwater and get rainwater to soak into the ground instead of flooding your yard. Rain gardens are attractive, low-maintenance, and create new habitats for local wildlife.

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Winter brings heavier rain with potential for water pollution, floods.

Help stop water pollution
- Encourage trees around your home. Their roots absorb rainfall and prevent water runoff.
- Use rain barrels to collect water from downspouts.
- Use soaker hoses rather than sprinklers.
- Don't let water run down storm drains.

Pollutants into our waterways and cause flooding in our streets.

Heavier, more frequent rain means more opportunities to wash pollutants into our waterways and cause flooding in our streets.

Direct downspouts at least 10 feet away from your home or business.

Prevent bark, dirt and other landscape materials from washing into streets.

Dispose of leaves, branches, grass clippings and other yard waste.

If your Christmas tree has been dried, you may... (253) 791-5418

Contact the City of Tacoma’s Solid Waste Management.

Bottle Cap Snowman Ornament

Clean up with an ancient favorite

Soap nuts are actually a berry, not a nut. They contain a natural cleaner that works as a surfactant, or detergent.

People have been using soap nuts for centuries, but they've recently become a popular natural laundry detergent.

Clean your clothes and protect the environment by using soap nuts. They're reported to be gentle on clothes and skin, a benefit for babies and anyone with sensitive skin.

Laundry Detergent

1. POLLUTANTS
2. GREASE
3. ELECTRONICS
4. BARRELS
5. TREE
6. STYROFOAM
7. PAVERS
8. PLANTS

Complete the sentences below (you'll find the answers in this issue of EnviroTalk) and then find the word or phrase in the puzzle that matches the sentence.

1. __________ need a boost, get them growing with scissors
2. Recycle clean, dry __________ packing blocks for use in the snow
3. __________ can stick to the inside of your drain pipe and enter our waterways
4. __________ into our streets
5. __________ into our waterways and cause flooding in our streets

What's that word?

2. Metal

What to do with old electronics, styrofoam, blocks

1. Bottle Cap Snowman Ornament

Paint the backs black or white.

Use black paint for the eyes, mouth and buttons and orange paper for the nose.

Snip a triangle of orange paper for the nose and glue it in place.

Each bottle cap to hold them together. Form a loop with the top of each bottle cap.

Paint the inside of each bottle cap with a few coats of white paint.

When calling any of the utilities, please have your account number available. Your account number is located at the top of your utility bill.

Facebook / CityofTacoma
E-mail listserv / cityoftacoma.org/environews

1. 1,5543
2. 591-5543
3. 565-5955
4. 591-5588
5. 593-7724