

# UF College of Dentistry Green Team

## Green Tips of the Month



December 2008  
I'm Dreaming of...

A green holiday season might not be what Bing Crosby sang about, but you can definitely celebrate sustainably this month!

Holidays can bury you in wrapping paper, and much of it is recyclable – make sure it's not going in the trash! Or better yet, get creative with your wrapping. Use fabric and cloth ribbon to wrap a gift for a friend who likes to sew. Include a pretty (and reusable) box or bag as part of the gift, and make that the wrapping. And there's always the tried-and-true funnies-as-wrapping-paper option!

Consider giving services (e.g. babysitting) or consumable gifts (like food or coffee) instead of knickknacks or other material items that might not get used. Just make sure that gift basket of bath products is something they'll actually use, not store in the garage until they finally chuck it whole into the landfill (the good news is that they might re-gift it). Savings bonds are perfect gifts for kids (instead of that 99<sup>th</sup> toy). Check out the Treehugger.com Gift Guide at <http://www.treehugger.com/giftguide/> for more ideas.

And don't forget, you don't need a sleigh and eight reindeer to have zero-emissions transportation. While much of the country is blanketed in snow, Florida has its best walking and biking weather during the winter.