

# Planning your green holidays

## Have a Zero-Waste Party

Whether it's Christmas, Hanukkah, New Year's or just because, you can always make your party a zero-waste fete. Lynn Colwell and Corey Colwell-Lipson, authors of *Celebrate Green* offer these guidelines for making any party waste-free.

1. Use edible and compostable décor for the home and table.
2. Use cloth napkins and tablecloth instead of paper products.
3. If you have a tree, decorate it together with edible/compostable ornaments (like hardened gingerbread cookies) and popcorn or cranberry garlands.
4. Use only reusable glass and table ware, or compostable products made from corn, potato or other.
5. Compost all food scraps and send leftovers home with guests in pre-saved, re-purposed glass jars.
6. Serve organic or biodynamic wine with real cork stoppers. Recycle the glass bottle and compost the stopper.
7. Give consumables, experiences, carbon offsets or donations to a cause as parting gifts.
8. Use e-invitations or plantable invitations (imbedded with seeds).

## David Tutera's New Take on the Old Secret Santa Party

This year for Christmas, have a Secret "Green" Santa with your friends. Everyone will write down their favorite charity and when your friends pull names, they will donate a set amount to that fund.

## 3 Eco-Parting Gifts for \$10 or Less

1. Beeswax ornament candle  
<http://www.beeswaxcandleworks.com>
2. Twig pencils  
<http://www.atoygarden.com>
3. Recycled glass ornaments  
<http://www.auroraglass.org>

