



# Newsletter

December 2018  
Issue 84

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## How to Green Up Your Holidays

The holidays are here and for those who like to procrastinate on giving and decorating options this article is timely and will help make your holidays a little more sustainable. Here are five green tips we found for you:

1. **Real Trees:** Surprising we know, likely the trees you purchase from a tree farm or lot are not from virgin forests, there is usually a new tree waiting to take its place. Plus, real trees are compostable, so don't forget to participate in your neighborhood post-holiday tree pick up. Lastly, though fake trees are reusable, they're still plastic and you would have to use it for 20 years before it was "greener" than a real tree ([rainforest-alliance.org](http://rainforest-alliance.org)).
2. **LED Lights:** "They're sturdier, last longer and consume 70 percent less energy," what more is there to say? ([energy.gov](http://energy.gov))
3. **Brown Paper Bags:** Forget wrapping paper because the glittery, metallic, velvety and tissue papers are not recyclable for your gift recipient. The same with bows and ribbons, but the nice thing those, are they are often reusable. Besides, it's not about the gift wrapping, it's what's inside.
4. **Second Hand Dishes, Cutlery & Stemware:** Your holiday party doesn't need to be matchy-matchy and in fact can look very chic if you shop with a strategy. Try buying items all within the same color palette (blues, greens, reds, whites) and the best part is you save a lot of money. If you have no need for them after the party, just donate them back or store them in the garage for the next party.
5. **Upcycle!** Just don't have it in you to try to shop around and find those perfect gifts, think about making great from the heart. Here are some ideas:



- Wine corks + hose clamps = trivets
- Magazines + old pictures + old cards + old frame + Mod Podge = collage art
- Old wool sweater + scissors + needle & thread = warm mittens and/or socks
- Mason jar + Epsom/sea salt + almond/olive oil + essential oil or lemon zest = body scrub

## Thank you Jen Clancy!

I know this isn't goodbye because we'll continue seeing you around "town", but I just wanted to let you know how much I have appreciated working with you for these past nine years. You have led Friends of Alta in new directions, kept true to the organization's mission, and represented with professionalism. As great and needed those qualities are for a non-profit executive director (ED), that's not what made you shine in my eyes. It was your passion, dedication, openness and desire to learn, and your ability to be serious and fun in one full swoop. Though I didn't work in the same office as you, I saw the long hours you put and the sacrifices you made, yet you always made time for your partners and community.

Though in many ways we have grown together, you should know I learned a lot from you, and I'm not just talking about politics, but what it means to be a leader. You showed accountability, sensibility, empathy and spirit—lots and lots of spirit! You brought a great presence for Friends of Alta and this community. Again, I know you will continue to do so in your new role at the Town of Alta, but I feel it is important to share what you have already delivered to our community.

Anyway, I do not mean to be all reflective and stuff, I just wanted to let the entire community know what a great job and partner you were for Friends of Alta. I am excited for you and the town as you continue your service with Alta. I look forward to more tamales and birding with you!

## Happy Holidays!



Photo Courtesy  
of Friends of Alta

Sincerely, *Maura Olivos*—Alta Environmental Center



The proper use of science is not to conquer nature but to live in it.

- Barry Commoner

## What's the Deal with this Preferred Carpool Parking?

This season Alta Ski Area is proud to have launched a **daily preferred carpool parking program** at Wildcat Base. This has been a long-time discussion both internally and externally with transportation partners as options have been surveyed, studied and tested. Alta's parking crew has been hard at work providing premium designated parking spots to carpoolers with 3+ people per vehicle.

So far most skiers and employees are very supportive of this effort, yet the purpose and need of this program may not be known to all. **Alta's carpool program goals:**

- To foster a culture of environmental stewardship with our skiers and employees that seeks to protect our skiing and climate now and for the future
- To reduce GHG emissions in Little Cottonwood Canyon and the Salt Lake Valley
- To help reduce the number of vehicles and winter traffic on Hwy 210
- To show appreciation to the skiers and employees that make the effort
- To build community amongst our skiers and employees
- To support and join our industry partners also with preferred carpool programs like Snowbird and their [R.I.D.E.](#) app, Snowbasin, Jackson Hole, Park City, A-Basin, Alpine Meadows, Keystone, Breckenridge, Ski Utah, and Protect Our Winters (POW)

### How does the program work?:

- Carpooling = 3 or more people per vehicle
- Preferred carpool parking will only be offered at Wildcat Base parking lot and will be within the first quarter of the east end of the lot.
- The exact number of spaces may vary day-to-day, but the preferred carpool parking area will be marked with cones and signs.
- Preferred carpool parking is daily and all-day, weather conditions and personnel permitting.
- Please DRIVE SLOW down the ramp and through the lot for your safety and the safety of others.

The ski area hopes its skiers and employees will embrace the challenge to reduce cars up the canyon, but don't forget about your other option the [UTA Ski Bus](#). Thank you all for your support and patience as this program comes alive!



## December & January Sustainability Events

- **Friday, December 14—Shop Local Holiday Pop-Up Market:** Support Utah by shopping your favorite Utah brands one day only, don't miss it! [go.standard.net/event/shop-local-holiday-pop-up-market](https://go.standard.net/event/shop-local-holiday-pop-up-market)
- **Thursday, December 20—Winter Farmer's Market:** ACE invites you to stock your pantry and fridge with products from local businesses. [altaarts.org/events/altafarmersmarket](https://altaarts.org/events/altafarmersmarket)
- **Monday, December 31—New Year's Eve Torchlight Parade:** Start your New Year with the spirit of giving. All proceeds for the torchlight parade will be going to the [Utah Food Bank](#). [alta.com/the-mountain/events](https://alta.com/the-mountain/events)
- **Saturday, January 5—Tour With a Ranger Begins!** Start the new year with a new appreciation for Alta and take a run with rangers from Cottonwood Canyons Foundation. [alta.com/the-mountain/tour-with-a-ranger](https://alta.com/the-mountain/tour-with-a-ranger)
- **Monday, January 14—Birding on Skis:** It's fun, it's different, and it's seeing birds in a whole new light. Join Tracy Aviary, the AEC and Friends of Alta for this monthly event. [alta.com/the-mountain/events](https://alta.com/the-mountain/events)
- **Saturday, January 19th—Naturalist Snowshoe Tours:** Cottonwood Canyons Foundation is taking registrations for an Alta adventure, monthly tours available . [alta.com/the-mountain/events](https://alta.com/the-mountain/events)

