Greener Holidays
Sustainable Plants

Robert Hinson
**Holiday Plants – Indoor Flowering**

**Christmas Cactus**
Easy to grow and blooms during the holidays

**Cyclamen**
Usually from the greenhouse, but a prolific bloomer

**Poinsettia**
The most common holiday plant
**Holiday Plants – Outdoor Flowering**

**Christmas Rose**
Not really a rose, but a low growing early season bloomer; great in the shade garden

**Yuletide Camellia**
An evergreen shrub; heavily hybridized; varying in height from 4-15’ with many color variations

**Rosemary**
A great seasonal aromatic plant
Holiday Plants – Seasonal Shape

Rosemary
Increased popularity as a holiday plant grown and pruned to a conical shape

Carolina Sapphire Cypress
One of the fastest growing conifers; will grow 30-40’ tall and 6-10’ wide
Emerald Green Arborvitae
Another evergreen; is more successful in more northern range but can also survive in North Carolina

Juniperus Chinesis “Blue Point”
An upright juniper with pyramidal shape and dense branching
Holiday Plants – Hollies

As you look for the evergreen plants and the red seasonal berries, the hollies take the prize!

Ilex “Nellie Stevens”  
Grows 30’ tall, 15’ wide

Ilex “Emily Brunner”  
Grows 20’ tall, 10-15’ wide
Holiday Plants – Hollies

Mahonia Bealei
Oops! That’s not a holly.

Ilex Verticilatta “Winter Red”
Don’t forget the deciduous hollies, as their berries are more proliferate
Greener Holidays

Sustainable Shopping Tips

Paula Stroup
Sustainable Shopping Tips

**GENERAL:**

Make your List and Check it Twice
- Prevent excessive purchasing

Recycled Product Content
- Especially post-consumer

Packaging
- Less wasteful

Reusable Shopping Bags
- Store incentives (Target, Whole Foods, etc.)
- Plastic bags (save 6 p/week = 312 p/year)
Sustainable Shopping Tips

GENERAL (pg. 2)

Buy Local
• Gift Cards
  ✓ Downtown Raleigh gift cards, Local merchants
• Support Local Merchants
  ✓ Avoid Shipping /Transportation
  ✓ Locally Made Products

Transportation
• Combine Trips
• Carpool
• Alternate Transportation
GIFTS: Consider Usefulness and Life of Gift

Homemade Gifts
- Baked Goods
- Sentimental Gifts
- New Gifts from Old Treasures

Antiques
- Special and meaningful

Reusable Bags filled with Sustainable Products
- Natural or Eco-friendly cleaning products
- Weatherization and energy efficient products
- LEDs or CFLs
- Organic Treats
- Refillable Water Bottles
GIFTS: Consider Usefulness and Life of Gift (pg. 2)

Refillable Water Bottles filled with goodies

Charitable Organizations
  • Gifts that support organizations, etc.

Charitable Donations
  • For the person who has everything

Other
  • Passes to parks, exhibits, etc.
  • Gift cards
  • Reusable bags
  • Sustainable items
Sustainable Shopping Tips

WRAPPING:

Paper
- Recyclable
- Kraft paper
- Paper bags

Reuse Boxes, Ribbons, Bows, etc
- Collect now
- Create new items
- Donate