



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Give Your Christmas Tree A Second Life**  
*Waste Management of San Diego Offers Christmas Tree Recycling*

**EL CAJON, CA** - The Christmas tree is the symbol of the holiday season for many people, and it can have a useful life once the ornaments are packed away.

Waste Management of San Diego provides residential customers in East County the opportunity to recycle their trees after the holiday season by cutting them up and placing them into their green waste recycling carts during the two weeks following Christmas.

Before placing the trees into the green waste cart for recycling, be sure to:

- Remove all ornaments, tinsel and lights
- Remove the tree stand
- Cut the tree into four-foot sections

Flocked trees cannot be recycled, but will be collected if cut into four-foot sections and placed into the regular trash container.

Customers in multi-family complexes in El Cajon or Santee should contact customer service at (619) 596-5100 for more details about tree recycling. Trees may also be dropped off for free at Waste Management's recycling and buyback center, located at 925 O'Conner St. in El Cajon, just south of the intersection of Bradley Ave. and Johnson Ave. The recycling and buyback center will accept trees for drop-off Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon.

"Every year in California, more than 40,000 tons of Christmas trees require handling at the end of the holiday season. Most communities throughout the state recognize that the final proper resting place for cut Christmas trees is not our landfills," said Carl Scherbaum, District Manager of Waste Management of San Diego. "If you have a live tree in your home, please recycle it when the holidays are over. The trees can be made into wood chips and mulch for gardens."

Trees collected in the curbside program will be mulched for reuse.

Waste Management is the leading provider of comprehensive waste and environmental services in North America. For more information about recycling, log onto [www.wastemanagementsd.com](http://www.wastemanagementsd.com).

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*From Everyday Collection to Environmental Protection, Think Green, Think Waste Management*