

Green Christmas Ideas

This Christmas, have fun getting personal and creative with gifts for friends and loved ones. The following examples are ways to show someone you care about them and the environment.

1. Impress your spouse by thinking ahead! Buy some tickets for his/her favorite band or play.
2. Gift a basket of homemade preserves and canning. The jars can be returned for refills next year!
3. Pick up tickets to a [Chilliwack Chiefs](#) home game for the sports fan in your family.
4. Low on funds? Bake cookies or other goodies as gifts for friends and family.
5. Pitch in with others to gift ski tickets and then teach the recipient how to ski/board.
6. Do you sew? Give coupons to friends for one hour of mending or sewing. Not only are you giving time, but you are often extending the life of a garment! It's a double green gift!
7. Pass on a cherished family heirloom.
8. Gift snowshoes or rentals to the whole family and enjoy winter outings for years to come.
9. Have a child attending university out of town? Send "presents" like their favorite book, photos from your walls, or their favorite blanket off the couch to remind them of home.
10. Have an animal lover on your list? [Sponsor](#) an animal in a shelter or rescue facility in their name.
11. Gift a case of locally brewed beer to the Craft Beer fanatic in your family.
12. In the spirit of giving? Donate to a local non-profit or a community foundation.
13. Have active kids or grandkids? Send them a gift certificate for a program of their choice at a local Recreation Centre.
14. Looking for a green Christmas in perpetuity? Help [acquire and protect](#) wildlife habitat
15. Have a family member with young kids? Gift them some babysitting coupons so they can enjoy some much needed rest and you can spend time getting to know your new family members.
16. Love to cook? Prepare a bunch of frozen meals for that busy person on your list. They will surely appreciate the ease of popping something homemade in the oven next time they are running late.
17. Looking for a lasting gift? [Donate](#) to have some trees planted in someone's name. Better yet, join in and [help](#) plant the trees yourselves!
18. Looking to get more for less? Have fun while browsing used book stores and thrift shops for unique items for that unique person on your list.
19. Spending Christmas with friends? Instead of exchanging gifts, pool your money and rent a cabin somewhere fun and snowy.
20. Have a foodie on your list? Get them a reusable container so they can reduce their takeout waste.
21. For the tree huggers: Try buying an evergreen tree and planting it in a pot. Bring it in to decorate over Christmas and place it out on the patio for the rest of the year. When it gets too big to move, plant it in your yard.
22. Some people have all that they need. This Christmas, give to those in need right here in our own community through [United Way](#) or the [Salvation Army](#).

For more information, please call the Environmental Services Department at 604.793.2907.