

## The 12 Rs of Christmas 2024

Ideas from Horsham Eco Churches for a greener, more sustainable Christmas.

1. **REDUCE** – Use less to conserve precious resources and save money, whilst still having fun.
2. **REFUSE** – Say no thanks to excess packaging and use your own bags.
3. **RESEARCH** – Use the [Ecosia](#) search engine, that plants trees, uses 100% profits for the planet and produces enough renewable energy to power all searches twice over.
4. **RECONSIDER** - the impacts of how you shop, buy Fairtrade, support local businesses, charities, [Christmas Markets](#) and events.
5. **REFLECT** – An experience, gift in kind or pre-loved gifts are very special. Ripple Effect offers charity gifts from £5, and Garden Twinning: <https://rippleeffect.org/gifts>
6. **RE-ENERGISE** – Choose LEDs when replacing Christmas lights and bulbs. See the 2024 Which? guide to [green energy suppliers](#).
7. **REDUCE FOOD WASTE** – Support [Horsham Community Fridge](#). Be realistic about how much food you need. Store leftovers in reusable lidded containers or covered with an upturned plate.
8. **REPURPOSE** – Wrap presents with reusable fabric, scarves or pillowcases, tied with ribbon or string. Reuse cards to make gift tags, customised cards and decorations. Reuse Advent calendars, gift bags, paper and decorations.
9. **RENT** – a responsibly sourced pot grown Christmas tree, buy a locally grown tree or reuse artificial trees. Let [Horsham Scouts](#) collect your real Christmas tree, to raise funds, and chip for their campsite paths.
10. **RECREATION** – Make your own crackers, decorations, homemade gifts and home baked goodies. You are invited to [Horsham Churches Together events](#).
11. **RECYCLE** – Having reduced and reused what you can, [recycle](#) through your local council, supermarket and charity schemes.
12. **RECONNECT** to nature, spend time outdoors, looking out of a window, or watching nature programmes, spot wildlife and signs of new life.

Let's celebrate Christmas in more thoughtful ways as we look forward to Spring.

A Rocha UK has more ideas in their [Twelve Tips for a Greener Christmas](#).

<https://horshamct.org.uk/eco-churches>