

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Recycling Coordinator II

REUSE AND REPURPOSE BEFORE YOU RECYCLE

If you are looking for a project to do while home, and something that involves the whole family, why not choose to Reuse and Repurpose before you Recycle! There are many different creative crafts and engaging activities that involve everyday household waste. Check out some of these neat ideas to help get your creative juices flowing:

- When planting seeds for your garden try using a cardboard egg carton as a seed tray.
- Old glass peanut butter or jam jars can be cleaned up and painted then used for candle holders
- Easily create pen and pencil holders or small dishes to hold pushpins or paper clips with old plastic soda bottles.
- Cardboard paper towel or toilet paper rolls make it easier to keep small power cords organized.
- Attract more birds to your yard by making a bird feeder from a used tin can and a pie plate.

By doing a simple internet search you can find even more ideas for your creative reused crafts. If you did not make your creations to be permanent then you can always disassemble them and toss them in your recycling bin, if they are clean and dry of course! If you used the cardboard egg carton for seed starting you can separate them and plant directly in the ground or gently take the starter plants out and toss the soggy cardboard in your compost pile instead of throwing in the trash.

It may not seem like reusing old paper towel rolls or making bird feeders from waste will have much of an effect in the overall consumption of natural resources and lifespan of our landfill, but every bit of waste reduction and avoiding new purchases makes a big difference. While repurposing and reusing instead of just tossing items in your blue cart may bring in less revenue for the Tehama County/Red Bluff Landfill through less recyclable commodities sent to markets, the reduction of materials and reduced vehicle trips to the landfill provides benefits such as extending the life of our landfill and conserving valuable natural resources. Diverting material from the landfill enables Tehama County to operate our landfill longer.

For more information on reuse and recycling programs in Tehama County, please visit www.tehamacountylandfill.com or call the Tehama County Solid Waste Management Agency at (530) 528-1103.