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CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING OFFERED BY COUNTY AND REPUBLIC SERVICES

Wondering what you'll do with your Christmas trees and other natural decorations after the holiday season is over? Catawba County's Landfill staff, in cooperation with Republic Services, has an answer for you. Christmas trees and other natural decorations will be collected at all five Solidwaste Convenience Centers located around Catawba County from December 26, 2012 through January 31, 2013, and at curbsides from January 7 through January 18, 2013. No ornaments, bases or other decorations should be left on trees.

"If you have regular curbside solid waste collection, you may put your used Christmas tree out on the day of your regular garbage pickup from January 7 through January 18, 2013, and a separate truck will come recycle the tree," said Amanda Kain, Catawba County's Waste Reduction Coordinator. "Since Republic Services will collect trees at the curbside from January 7 through 18, residents should have two opportunities to recycle trees on their regularly scheduled garbage pick-up day."

Republic Services will not operate on Tuesday, December 25, 2012. Garbage and recycling curbside service will operate one day behind schedule from Wednesday, December 26 through Saturday, December 29 and will resume the regular curbside pickup schedule on Monday, December 31.

Christmas trees and other natural decorations will only be accepted at the County Solidwaste Convenience Centers between December 26, 2012 and January 31, 2013. Some municipalities in Catawba County are again handling tree pickup separately within their boundaries, so residents of municipalities should check with the government office in their city or town to be sure of the schedule and procedure they should use.

The County's five Solidwaste Convenience Centers are located on Rocky Ford Road off Highway 10 West in Newton (across from the Blackburn Landfill); Bethany Church Road in Newton; in the Cooksville community on Rhoney Farm Road; in the Oxford community on Lookout Dam Road; and on Sherrills Ford Road.

Regular operating hours for Centers are as follows: Blackburn Center is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10am-6pm. The Bethany Church Road Center is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am-6 pm. The Cooksville Center is open on Friday and Saturday from 8 am-6 pm. The Oxford Center is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 am-6 pm and the Sherrills Ford Center is open Thursday through Sunday from 10 am-6 pm.

The Blackburn Center will close at 2 pm on Monday, December 24. All Centers will be closed on Tuesday, December 25. To accommodate for holiday closings, the Blackburn and Sherrills Ford Centers will operate on Wednesday, December 26 from 10 am until 6 pm. All Centers will resume their regular schedules on Thursday, December 27.

Christmas trees are accepted at the Blackburn Construction and Demolition Landfill, which be closed from Monday, December 24 through Wednesday, December 26 and will resume the regular schedule on Thursday, December 27, 2012.

For more information visit the County's Solidwaste website at www.catawbacountync.gov/ue/solwasmg.asp.