

YORKSHIRE consumers are being urged to avoid stuffing the environment this festive season.

Regional environment boss Paul Tullett warned that it's not just waistlines that could be increasing over the holiday period.

An extra three million tonnes of waste from food and drink packaging, Christmas trees, cards, wrapping paper and even a few unwanted presents will be generated in the UK alone.

Mr Tullett, area manager for the Environment Agency in West Yorkshire and the Humber, is promising to do his part to reduce the amount of rubbish he produces over Christmas and the New Year – and is urging others to do likewise.

### Issue

He said: "I'm astounded by the amount of paper, card and other materials we simply throw away over Christmas. As part of my pledge towards the environment I have decided that I will reduce, reuse and recycle as much as possible and I'm urging my staff to do their bit too so, together, we can make it a greener Christmas."

He continued: "There are all sorts of ways to make sure your celebrations have minimum impact on the environment, and it doesn't have to be hard work."

"Waste disposal is a major issue facing the country

generations to come."

He said people should buy food and wine locally to save on transport costs as the distance food has travelled from field to fork makes a significant contribution to climate change, with carbon dioxide emissions from international sea and air travel.

People should also act to minimise food waste by putting fruit and vegetable peelings into compost bins and should recycle bottle and cans at their local recycling centre.

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## factFILE

### Waste *not*...

- Of the three million extra tonnes of rubbish we produce over Christmas, only 12 per cent will be recycled.
- As much as 83 sq kilometres of wrapping paper will end up in our bins over Christmas – enough to cover an area larger than Guernsey.
- Out of the 7.5m trees bought at Christmas, only 1.2m are recycled.
- Discarded Christmas trees create enough waste to fill the Albert Hall three times over



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## Round Table scoops national website award

THE YORKSHIRE Dales Area of fundraising organisation the Round Table has won the National Round Table Online Trophy 2005 Award.

Their new website, which won the award, was developed by Leeds-based bespoke software company, Logical Minds.

Round Table Chairman of Boston Spa and Tadcaster, Mike Kennedy, said: "We've already had people ringing up and joining as a result of seeing the new website."

"It's great to be able to update event details every two weeks and ensure there is always a good turnout for events at our 90 member-strong district table".

Yorkshire Dales Round Table Area Chairman, Dale Frankland, said the website will make an important long term contribu-

tion to organising events. He said: "The new website gives the Round Table a great opportunity to make better use of information technology to attract more members and promote our events more effectively."

### Expertise

"Through its programming expertise, Logical Minds has developed a solution that will significantly improve communication between district tables and prevent events clashing."

Logical Minds' sales and estimating director Andy Travis said: "We wanted to create an effective tool that will help the Round Table to promote itself more effectively for years to come".

For more details, visit [www.yd.roundtable.gb.com](http://www.yd.roundtable.gb.com)