



RESOURCES FOR DONATING HOUSEHOLD ITEMS IN THE TWIN CITIES

Dropping your or your loved ones' things into an anonymous metal bin in a parking lot can feel really heartless. The burden of letting things go can be eased when you know things are going to an audience in need. This is a list of some charities and resources I use when helping people de-clutter or empty spaces.

FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Bridging (Drop offs in Bloomington and Roseville.) - www.bridging.org

Provides furniture and home goods to people transitioning out of homelessness and poverty. Accepts new or gently used furniture (free of rips, stains, pet hair) and household items. Pick-ups can be scheduled for a fee. 952-888-1105

CLOTHING & HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

ARC - www.arcsvaluevillage.org

In addition to items in good condition, ARC accepts stained and torn textiles for recycling. Locations in Bloomington, Brooklyn Center, New Hope, Richfield, and St. Paul.

Goodwill (40+ drop off locations.) - <http://www.goodwilleasterseals.org/>

Salvation Army - <http://salvationarmynorth.org/community/twin-cities-metro/locations/stores/>

8 Twin City store locations and over 80 drop-boxes. See website for locations. Free pick-ups in some areas.

The Free Store (Central Lutheran Church, 333 S 12th St, Mpls) - <http://www.centralmpls.org/community/freestore/>

Donations of clothing (especially men's), towels, sheets, small household items, jackets, hats and new socks and underwear, may be brought to the main south entrance during church hours.

Many social service organizations rely on donations of clothes, household items and toiletries for their clients. Most have information online about their specific needs. The following links can help you locate resources in your area:

Homeless Shelters – <http://www.homelessshelterdirectory.org/>

Women's Shelters - <https://www.womenshelters.org/sta/minnesota>

Refugee Services - <https://therefugeecenter.org>

CHILD AND INFANT ITEMS

Many police and fire departments appreciate donations of stuffed animals in good condition. The plush toys are offered to kids experiencing traumatic events such as fires, violence, or other stressful situations.

Tandem (South Minneapolis) – www.wearetandem.org

Tandem is one of the only locations in the Twin Cities that **accepts car seats**, strollers, and other infant items that most organizations cannot take due to liability concerns. All items are thoroughly checked and vetted by their staff before distribution. Children's clothes (through size 6T), toys, books, and supplies accepted. Visit website for donation hours.

PROFESSIONAL CLOTHES

The following organizations help people enter the work force by providing professional wear and accessories.

Dress for Success – <http://twincities.dressforsuccess.org>

Accepts women's professional attire including interview suits, professional separates (blouses, slacks, dresses, blazers), shoes, accessories, and winter outerwear. Drop off site in St. Paul. 651-646-6000

Ready for Success - <http://readyforsuccessmn.org/>

Accepts men and woman's professional and business casual clothing including suits, dress shirts, slacks, skirts, season outerwear, handbags and shoes, belts and ties. Additionally seeking new full-sized personal care products, socks and t-shirts. Drop off site in Minneapolis. 612-872-1509

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Play It Forward - <http://minnesota.publicradio.org/radio/services/cms/playitforward/>

Vega Productions - <https://vegaisinstrumental.wordpress.com/>

FORMAL WEAR

The following organizations connect low-income high school students with formal wear for school dances. Unique but less contemporary formal wear may be of interest to a community or school theater program.

Glass Slipper Project – www.operationglassslipper.org

Dress Picks/Donate My Dress – www.dresspicks.com/Donate-My-Dress/

Born Free USA's "Fur for the Animals" - www.bornfreeusa.org/furdrive

Each fall (September – December) Born Free collects clothing made from animal fur. Donations are used to provide familiar comfort, warmth, and bedding to injured, orphaned, and sick wildlife in their care.

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

Some solid waste pick-up companies take electronics. Contact the property's waste management provider to find out if and how they take electronics.

Best Buy - <http://www.bestbuy.com/> (See Services, Recycle Your Old Products)

All Best Buy locations should accept most used electronics for recycling. Contact store site to confirm hours, what is accepted, and daily limits. Fees apply to some items including TVs and monitors.

City or County Hazardous Waste Collection Site (See list under Hazardous Waste. May have fees.)

Free Geek Twin Cities (FGTC) (South Minneapolis) - <http://freegeektwincities.org/>

Free Geek uses donated items to build new products available for sale at their thrift store. Through their work, FGTC works to diminish the digital divide and minimize eWaste.

Staples - <https://www.staples.com/sbd/cre/marketing/sustainability-center/recycling-services/>

Recycles many electronic items, regardless of brand or where it was purchased. No purchase necessary.

Tech Dump (Golden Valley and St. Paul) - <http://www.techdump.org>

Tech Dump recycles electronics for a fee while providing job training for adults entering the workforce.

GENERAL MATERIAL DISPOSAL

Contact the property's waste management service provider. Many companies will pick up large items that meet specific guidelines (weight, size, material). If the waste management provider will not pick it up check the county websites listed below for information on transfer stations (dumps).

Hazardous Waste

Items that may cause harm to the environment if disposed with other trash (pesticides, pool chemicals, engine oil, antifreeze, paint, gas, fluorescent bulbs, etc.) should be taken to a Hazardous Waste collection site.

Counties differ in what they will accept. See websites for complete details.

Anoka: <https://www.anokacounty.us/369/Household-Hazardous-Waste-Facility>

Carver: www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/public-services/environmental-services/household-hazardous-waste

Dakota: <https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/environment/recyclingzone/pages/default.aspx>

Hennepin: <http://www.hennepin.us/residents/recycling-hazardous-waste/drop-off-facilities>

Ramsey: http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/ph/hw/household_hazardous_waste_collection_sites.htm

Scott: <http://www.scottcountymn.gov/491/Environmental-Services>

Washington: <https://www.co.washington.mn.us/envirocenter>

Habitat for Humanity's ReStore (drop off in New Brighton) - <http://restore.tchabitat.org/>

Construction and remodel materials in decent condition can be donated to Habitat for Humanity's ReStore. Large loads may be picked up. Donations are tax deductible. 612-588-3820

Paint Recycling/Disposal - <http://www.paintcare.org/>

PaintCare directs users to local sites that accept unwanted, leftover paint for recycling.

BOOKS

Books for Africa (St. Paul drop off) <https://www.booksforafrica.org/donate/donate-books.html>

Hennepin County Libraries (Multiple locations) - <http://www.hclib.org/about/support#donations>

Many libraries accept books to be sold during fundraising events.

Women's Prison Book Project (Minneapolis drop off) - www.wpbbp.org/book-donations

ART SUPPLIES, TOOLS, CREATIVE MATERIAL

In addition to the sites below, schools, daycares, churches, retirement homes, and art centers, are frequently happy to receive donations of art and craft supplies.

Free Arts Minnesota (Minneapolis drop off) - <http://www.freeartsminnesota.org/>

Conducts art programs serving youth who have experienced poverty, homelessness, abuse or mental illness.

Leonardo's Basement (Minneapolis drop off) - <https://leonardosbasement.org/donate/physical-resources/>

Leonardo's Basement is a one-of-a-kind creative learning environment for "kids" of all ages to design and build from their imagination. Accepts many items for creative use including building materials, science stuff, tools, fabric, household items, toys, and many others. See website for complete list.

PET SUPPLIES

Animal Humane Society - <https://www.animalhumanesociety.org/>

Five locations in the Twin Cities metro and accepts unused toys, treats, leashes and other items.

People and Pets Together - <http://www.peopleandpetstogether.org/>

Accepts unopened bags of food and new/slightly used supplies. Many drop off locations.

OTHER RESOURCES

Haulers

There are many hauling companies in the Twin Cities. Most charge based the volume of items being picked up. If items are heavy, large, or require a number of stairs to get out, discuss that prior to pick-up.

1-800-Got Junk - http://www.1800gotjunk.com/us_en/locations/junk-removal-twin-cities

Junk Genius - <http://twincities.junkgenius.com/>

Muscle

In addition to relocation, these companies provide people to move heavy items within one space.

College Muscle Movers - collegemusclmovers.com

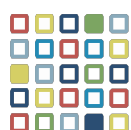
You Move Me – www.youmoveme.com

Paper Recycling - WestRock (formerly RockTenn) - 2250 Wabash Avenue, St. Paul, MN

This industrial paper recycler has a window where cars can drop off cardboard, newsprint, and office paper.

TUBS Dumpsters - <http://www.tubsinc.com/twincities.html>

Offers smaller dumpsters ideal for household waste. See website for restrictions. 612-825-8827



If you have resources to add or update, please let me know!

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