

all that stuff

Free yourself of things you don't need

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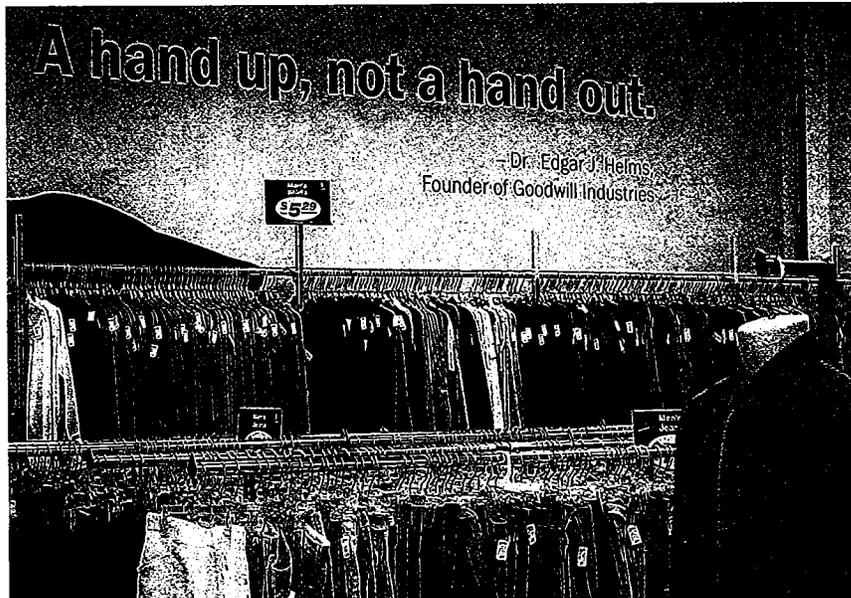
Running a household usually involves the accumulation of stuff. A lot of stuff. What to do with the perfectly good toaster when a new one comes on the scene? Do we really need to keep Aunt Mimi's old furniture in the attic? Would anyone want the baby toys now that our youngest is in kindergarten?

Those issues come most forcibly to the fore when we're ready to move to a new house or just feel the need to de-clutter. Unfortunately, in the midst of moving, it's often very stressful to start to look for places that will accept household goods, clothes, toys and other discards.

That's why we've assembled a handy list of places that will accept donations of those goods. Several organizations will even pick them up from your house. You will get a receipt for tax purposes from some of these organizations; from others you'll get the satisfaction of knowing you're helping a good cause. Mostly, though, you get the things out of your way and out of your house.

National Organizations GOODWILL INDUSTRIES

There are Goodwill stores in Paramus and Elmwood Park. Funds raised from sales of donated items at these stores provide free vocational, training and employment support services for individuals with disabilities and other barriers to employment. What sells best are vintage items, art and décor pieces, and designer and brand-name clothing. But "all new and gently used clothing flies off the shelves," says Jose M. Medellin, director of communications for Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey. "Recently, a new generation of



GOODWILL Sales of donated items help provide training and employment services for individuals with disabilities.

shoppers has discovered Goodwill: young professionals looking for work outfits, college and high school students seeking one-of-a-kind clothing and vintage clothing, fashionistas and, in general, environmentally-conscious shoppers who are concerned with re-using and re-purposing clothing and household goods."

Goodwill does not pick up, but partners with College Hunks Hauling, which delivers to Goodwill for a fee (and will also remove junk and other items Goodwill doesn't take, for recycling or re-purposing at another non-profit). Donors can also donate at any Goodwill Store, where they will get a tax receipt, or put things in Goodwill donations bins located throughout the area. For a complete list of donation sites, visit goodwillnynj.org. For highlights of Goodwill's programs and services, see *Where the Goodwill Goes* at goodwillnynj.wordpress.com.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

The Paterson Habitat for Humanity maintains a ReStore in Wayne, which sells donated materials, including new and gently used furniture, appliances, lumber, hardware and vintage items. All prices are at least 50 percent off retail value, and all proceeds are used toward Habitat's mission to end substandard housing worldwide. ReStore's director, Lucia Fitzgerald, says good upholstered furniture, kitchen and dining room sets, lighting and vintage lamps, kitchen cabinets and tools are all hot sellers. Among the most-sought items: furniture (must be solid wood and metal, with no visible stains or rips in upholstery); kitchen appliances (no more than eight years old, or five years for dishwashers); complete sets of kitchen cabinets; light fixtures, fans and lamps; shelving; unopened cans of paint (less than five years old); patio

COURTESY OF GOODWILL INDUSTRIES

furniture and grills. Sofa beds, electronics and entertainment centers are not accepted. For a complete list, go to their website; there is pick-up available, although "we love it if you can drop it off," Fitzgerald says. Donations are vetted through the Donation Hotline, (973) 782-6996, or through the ReStore donation form online. Paterson Habitat ReStore, 415 Hamburg Turnpike, Wayne, (973) 782-6993; patersonhabitat.org/restore.

THE SALVATION ARMY

Captain Brian Merchant, administrator of The Salvation Army's Adult Rehabilitation Center in Paterson, says clothing is the most highly sought category for their Family Stores, which sell it at reasonable prices. Locally, there are Salvation Army Family Stores in Englewood and Paterson. There's a free pick-up service, and donors can schedule the time for their pick-ups by calling 800-SA-TRUCK (800-728-7825), by visiting SATRUCK.org, or by using the Salvation Army Family Store app (available on iTunes and Google Play as "Salvation Army Family Store").

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA (VVA)

Items donated to VVA are sold in bulk to privately owned thrift stores. Those funds provide services to veterans of all eras through claims-processing assistance, counseling, homeless issues, advocacy, rehabilitation and education. VVA takes household goods such as glassware, books, small appliances, tools, bikes, toys, kitchenware and linens, rugs, small furniture, jewelry, shoes, baby equipment, clothing and accessories. Pick-ups can be scheduled online at scheduleapick-up.com or by calling 1-800-775-VETS.

Charity Thrift Shops C.A.T.S. RESALE SHOP

C.A.T.S. stands for Caring about the Strays and benefits homeless animals of all kinds. The shop accepts women's clothing, small furniture, antiques, jewelry and all kinds of household goods (dishes, kitchen equipment and so on). 80 Kinderkamack Road, Westwood, (201) 666-5444; care4strays.com.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY Prices at ReStore are at least 50-percent off retail value and proceeds go to Habitat's mission of ending substandard housing.

GREEN CABOOSE THRIFT SHOP

Hackensack University Medical Center is the beneficiary of sales from this volunteer-run shop in Hackensack. The shop sells donated items such as gently used clothing, jewelry, children's toys and books, holiday items and a broad selection of household articles. Donations are accepted 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. 86 Orchard St., Hackensack, (201) 487-1462.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN THRIFT SHOP

Used clothing (men's, women's and children's), purses, accessories, jewelry, furs and household items may be donated to this shop. Everything must be in good condition; sales benefit Bergen County families. Donations are not accepted on Fridays or Saturdays; 75 S. Washington Ave., Bergenfield, (201) 385-3702, ncjwbcs.org/thrift-shop.

OUR THRIFT SHOP

The Art School at Old Church in Demarest maintains this community thrift shop, which sells affordable clothing, shoes, accessories, books, children's items, works of art, and such housewares as pots and pans. The shop is run by dedicated volunteers and accepts donations of gently used items. To make a tax-deductible donation, contact the shop's manager. 245 Old Hook Road, Westwood, (201) 594-0144, tasoc.org/support/thrift-shop.

THE COMMUNITY THRIFT SHOP.

This store, run by volunteers, benefits 52 charities, hospitals and churches, and you can designate which one gets the proceeds from your donations. Among the beneficiaries: Shelter Our Sisters, Children's Aid and Family Services, and West Bergen Mental Health Clinic. The shop accepts adult and children's clothes (in good condition and in season only), small furniture and household items, books, bric-a-brac, artwork and other home furnishings. Donations are accepted 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Mondays and on the first Saturday of the month; items must be in shopping bags (no garbage bags). 85 Godwin Ave., Midland Park, (201) 652-7661.

Consignment Shops BARBARA ANN'S

Women's clothing and accessories are the focus of this store in the middle of Ramsey. Bring in potential consignments during business hours. 4 E. Main St., Ramsey, (201) 825-7888.

BOULEVARD CONSIGNMENT & ANTIQUES

Part antique store, part consignment store, Boulevard buys paintings and fine and costume jewelry outright, but accepts consignments of crystal, china, collectibles, furniture, linens and decorative items on Tuesdays and Wednesdays during business hours. 568 Bergen Blvd., Ridgefield, (201) 941-6960, boulevardconsign.com. >

DOUBLE TAKE

This high-end consignment store takes designer clothes at its four locations (two in Bergen County); there's a list of acceptable brands of accessories, sunglasses, clothing, handbags, jeans and shoes on its website. Its Englewood store is a Take2 Premium Outlet and accepts "mid-priced brands." 35 Nathaniel Place, Englewood, (201) 569-1112 and 189 E. Ridgewood Ave., Ridgewood, (201) 445-2525, edoubletake.com.

MERRY GO ROUND

"Recycle shopping" is the focus of this women's consignment store, where owners receive 50 percent of the selling price (set by the store). Cash is then put into the owner's account, which may be drawn upon for purchases. Name-brand clothing and accessories consigned here must be in virtually perfect condition, in season and purchased new within the

past two years. 166 Paris Ave., Northvale, (201) 767-3535.

NEW TO YOU

This shop takes current clothing, shoes, furs and accessories (nothing more than two years old) in season and in excellent condition. It does not accept lingerie, bathing suits or workout clothes. Items are consigned for 60 days and the consignor receives 50 percent of the selling price. 449 Cedar Lane, Teaneck, (201) 928-1868; newtoyounj.com.

REPEAT PERFORMANCE

Knickknacks, artwork, women's clothes, household items, collectibles, jewelry and antiques are re-sold at this cute little shop in northern Bergen County. It's probably best to call to make an appointment before you take them your consignment. 131 Kinderkamack Road, Park Ridge, (201)-391-4086.

SECOND GLANCE

This consignment shop accepts women's clothing by appointment, after the payment of a \$10 registration fee. Garments must be cleaned, pressed and on hangers, as well as in season. Purses and shoes are acceptable too. Forty percent of the selling price goes to the owner. Things that don't sell after 60 days are returned to the owner or donated to Star of Hope in Paterson. 354 Lincoln Ave., Hawthorne, (973) 427-2231; secondglance.biz.

SECOND TIME AROUND

The two local outlets of this chain accept in-style designer and "mid-level" (example: J.Crew) women's clothing during business hours. Fashionable accessories, handbags and shoes are also desired. 204 E. Ridgewood Ave., Ridgewood, (201) 857-4085 and 11 E. Palisade Ave., Englewood, (201) 567-2960; secondtimearound.net.

WHO ACCEPTS WHAT?

	CLOTHES	TOYS	BOOKS	APPLIANCES	FURNITURE	KITCHEN WARES	ART & ANTIQUES
BARBARA ANN'S BOULEVARD							
C.A.T.S.					SMALL		
COMMUNITY THRIFT							
DOUBLE TAKE							
GOODWILL							
GREEN CABOOSE							
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY							
MERRY GO ROUND							
N.C.J.W.							
NEW TO YOU							
OUR THRIFT SHOP							
REPEAT PERFORM							
SALVATION ARMY							
SECOND GLANCE							
SECOND TIME							
THEN AND NOW							
TREASURE TROVE							
VIETNAM VETS					SMALL		

THEN AND NOW CLASSICS

Items consigned to this local store stay for 90 days, with the owner receiving 60 percent of the price if they sell. Then and Now takes a big variety of things, antique to new, including small furniture, glassware, china, collectibles, linens, vintage jewelry, furs, purses, mirrors, artwork, clocks, quilts, silver, books, postcards and old tools. According to owner Sarah Bartoldus, "Anything unusual will usually sell immediately, older lighting sells well, as well as good large antique frames, and the practical, such as vintage Corningware or Pyrex, or a nice side table." 610 Lafayette Ave., Hawthorne, (973) 304-1052; thenandnowclassics.com.

THE TREASURE TROVE

China, linens, knickknacks, paintings, porcelain, dishes and jewelry are sold on consignment in this Fair Lawn shop. Call for an appointment to show the owner your goods before bringing them in. 11-16 Saddle River Road, Fair Lawn, (201) 796-8222. ♦