

Co-op America's* 21 Things You Didn't Know You Could Recycle

- 1. Appliances:** Goodwill accepts working appliances, www.goodwill.org or you can contact the Steel Recycling Institute to recycle them: 800/YES-I-CAN, www.recycle-steel.org.
- 2. Batteries:** *Rechargeables and single-use:* Battery Solutions, 734/467-9110, www.batteryrecycling.com. (See also "Technotrash.")
- 3. Cardboard boxes:** Contact local nonprofits and women's shelters to see if they can use them. Or, offer them up at your local Freecycle.org listserv or on Craigslist.org. If your workplace collects at least 100 or more boxes each month, UsedCardboardBoxes.com accepts them for resale.
- 4. CDs/DVDs/Game Disks:** Send scratched music or computer CDs, DVDs, and PlayStation or Nintendo video game disks to AuralTech for refinishing, and they'll work like new: 888/454-3223, www.auraltech.com. For recycling, see "Technotrash."
- 5. Clothes:** Wearable clothes can go to your local Goodwill outlet or women's shelter: Donate wearable women's business clothing to Press for Success, which gives them to low-income women as they search for jobs, 212/532-1922, www.dressforsuccess.org. Offer unwearable clothes and towels to local animal boarding and shelter facilities, which often use them as pet bedding.
- 6. Compact fluorescent bulbs:** Take them to your local IKEA store for recycling: www.ikea.com. Or order a Sylvania RecyclePak for \$15, which is a special lined box large enough for eight average CFLs. Your fee covers shipping to and recycling at Veolia Environmental Systems; To order, visit www.sylvania.com/Recycle/RecyclePak.
- 7. Compostable bio-plastics:** You'll need to take them to a municipal composter; find one at www.findacomposter.com.
- 8. Computers and electronics:** Find responsible recyclers, local and national, at www.ban.org/pledge/Locations.html.
- 9. Exercise videos:** Swap them with others at www.videofitness.com. (See also "Technotrash.")
- 10. Eyeglasses:** Your local Lion's Club or eye care chain may collect these. Lenses are reground and given to people in need.
- 11. Foam packing peanuts:** Your local pack and ship store will likely accept these for reuse. Or, call the Plastic Loose Fill Producers Council to find a drop-off site: 800/828-2214. For places to drop off foam blocks for recycling, contact the Alliance of Foam Packaging Recyclers, 410/451-8340, www.epspackaging.org/info.html.
- 12. Ink/toner cartridges:** recycleplace.com pays \$ 1 each.
- 13. Miscellaneous:** Get your unwanted items, into the hands of people who can use them. Offer them up on your local Freecycle.org or Craigslist.org listserv, or try giving them away at Throwplace.com or giving or selling them at iReuse.com will also help you find a recycler, if possible. When your items have reached the end of their useful lifecycle.
- 14. Oil:** Find Used Motor Oil Hotlines for each state: 202/682-8000, www.recycleoil.org.

15. Phones: Donate cell phones: Collective Good will refurbish your phone and sell it to people in developing countries: 770/856-9021, www.collectivegood.com. Call to Protect reprograms cell phones. to dial 911 and gives them to domestic violence victims: www.donatephone.com. Recycle *single-line phones*: Reclamere. 814/386-2927, www.reclamere.com.

16. Sports equipment: Resell or trade it at your local Play It Again Sports outlet, 800/476-9249, www.playitagainsports.com

17. "Technotrash": Easily recycle all of your CDs, jewel cases, DVDs. audio and video tapes, cell 'phones, pagers, rechargeable and single-use batteries, PDAs, and ink/toner cartridges with GreenDisk's Technotrash program. For a small fee, GreenDisk will send you a cardboard box in which you can ship them up to 70 pounds of any of the above. Your fee covers the box as well as shipping and recycling fees. 800/305-GREENDISK, www.greendisk.com

18. Tennis shoes: Nike's Reuse-a-Shoe program turns old shoes into playground and athletic flooring: www.nikereuseashoe.com. One World Running will send still-wearable shoes to athletes in need in Africa, Latin America, and Haiti: www.oneworldrunning.com.

19. Toothbrushes and razors: Buy a recycled plastic toothbrush or razor from Recycline, and the company will take it back to be recycled again into plastic lumber. Recycline toothbrushes and razors are made. from used Stonyfield Farms' yogurt cups. 888/354-7296, www.recycline.com.

20. Tyvek envelopes: Quantities *less than 25*: Send to Shirley Cimburke, Tyvek Recycling Specialist, 540 I Jefferson Davis Hwy., Spot 197, Room 231, Richmond, VA 23234. *Quantities larger than 25*, call 866/33-TYVEK.

21. Stuff you just can't recycle: When practical, send it back to the manufacturer and tell them they need to close the waste loop.

22. Cork: Save your old wine bottle corks for recycling. See www.yemmhart.com/news+/winecorkrecycling.htm

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