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# Healdsburg Recycling News

Winter 2010

## The Importance of Reuse One Person's Trash... ...is another Person's treasure

Besides being an awesome place to score a piece of vintage furniture or a warm sweater, thrift stores and consignment shops contribute to our local economy and do a great service to our community. Perhaps more importantly, stores featuring reused items keep tons of usable materials from being sent to the landfill. Each year, Sonoma County residents produce 100,000 tons of material that is landfilled, with a considerable amount of that being usable items: clothes, toys, books, furniture, and household décor that could have been used by someone else. Reuse, repair and reconditioning of items are the most effective ways to achieve a waste free society. The average American throws away 68 pounds of clothes and textiles a year. Make a personal goal for yourself to give the community a chance at your unused items before sending them to waste.

One of many great local establishments to buy and donate reuse items is Garbage Reincarnation. This self-supported, non profit program is committed to conserving the natural environment through education, reuse, and recycling. Garbage Reincarnation runs Recycle Town, and has three locations where truly comprehensive recycling takes place. Operating like a thrift store, residents can

drop off books, household items, furniture, clothes, bikes, sports equipment, electronics, building materials, and even old toilets that are ground up for road repairs. It provides a great place to shop for doors, windows and moldings for remodeling projects; toys for the kids; random metal pieces for the artist. Everything is priced low, and all proceeds go to run the program. At the main location, in Petaluma, Recycle Town also has a teaching classroom, which showcases art from local artists and a wall made from reclaimed glass bottles.



*recycled metal statue at Recycle Town*

In Healdsburg, there are two thrift stores that provide a great service to our community. Goodwill Industries assists people who have disabilities, lack education or job experience, or face other employment challenges by providing them with employment, job training, and career services. The Goodwill retail store, on Healdsburg Avenue, accepts donations of usable goods, and almost all the profits go to fund Goodwill programs. The bountiful thrift stores located at Lytton Springs Road are run by the Salvation Army. The proceeds from selling donated goods support their in-residence rehabilitation program

that serves men and women with emotional or social needs. There is also a drop-off donation center at this location.

You can also make money for your high quality unwanted items if you put them on consignment.



*vintage shoes for only a dollar*

Healdsburg has an assortment of consignment stores: baby and children's clothes at Sprout, fine household décor at Consignment Cottage, and women's and men's clothes and accessories at Favorites. Consignment works by bringing your

*continued on back...*

### Shop Locally for Reuse Items

Buying and reusing items closes the recycling loop. Don't forget to bring your own bag!

★ **Goodwill Industry**,  
 513 Healdsburg Ave. 431-8408

★ **Salvation Army**,  
 200 Lytton Springs Rd. 433-7404

★ **Sprout**,  
 177 Healdsburg Ave. 433-7355

★ **Consignment Cottage**,  
 44 Mill St. 433-3180

★ **Favorites**,  
 435 Center St. 433-2660

★ **Recycletown**,  
 166 Alexander Valley Rd. 433-0321  
 500 Mecham Rd. Petaluma 795-3660  
 949 Sebastopol Rd. Santa Rosa 527-0770

# Single-Stream Recycling Guide

Place all Recycling Together inside the Blue Cart

## Mixed Paper and Cardboard

### YES

- White & Colored Paper
- Office Paper & Junk Mail
- Newspaper
- Magazines & Catalogs
- Cereal & Shoe Boxes
- Corrugated Cardboard

### NO

- Napkins, Towels, Tissues
- Food-Contaminated Paper
- Pizza Boxes
- Photographs or Blueprint Paper
- Waxed Cardboard or Paper

Flatten or cut boxes to fit loosely inside cart. Place shredded paper in clear plastic or paper bag.



## Milk Cartons and Juice/Rice/Soy boxes

### YES

- Milk Cartons
- Drink Boxes

### NO

- Plastic-Lined Cartons
- Straws or Pop Tops

Remove straws & tops Empty before recycling



## Glass Bottles & Jars

### YES

- Clear & Colored Glass
- Food & Beverage Jars

### NO

- Window or Mirror Glass
- Ceramic, Dishes or Stemware

Remove caps & tops Empty before recycling

## Plastic Containers

### YES

- Plastic Containers
- Milk & Water Jugs
- Soda & Juice Bottles
- Yogurt & Deli Tubs
- Plastic Bags

### NO

- Plastic Caps
- Styrofoam

Wash & squash, remove caps Empty before recycling



## Metal Cans

### YES

- Aluminum Cans
- Steel & Tin Cans
- Bimetal Cans
- Empty Paint/ Aerosol Cans

### NO

- Plastic Caps
- Styrofoam

Wash & squash, leave labels on Empty before recycling



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previously loved, but in good condition, items to an accepting store. Some will offer you trade credit, or cash back, based on a percentage of what the resale price will be. Other stores display your items, assign a price to it, and when it sells will give you part of the profit. Make sure to contact your favorite store for details and appointment information. When you shop at these consignment stores, you support a local business, and also local residents as well.

Having a house or neighborhood yard sale is also good way to pass on items you are considering discarding and letting someone else make use of them. Check out web-based mediums like [www.waccobb.net](http://www.waccobb.net), [www.craigslist.org](http://www.craigslist.org), [www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com), [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org), and Sonoma County's own [www.sonomax.org](http://www.sonomax.org) to get rid of (or find!) useable items. If you have items that you would have a hard time reselling, or simply want to donate, many local charities will welcome your donations.

Next time you are redecorating a room, cleaning out the garage, or purging the closet, don't send something useable to a life sentence at the landfill. Just because you don't need the item anymore doesn't mean that someone else won't love it. If you sell at a consignment store, those jeans that don't fit might even make you some money! Are you in the market for a new item? Make your next shopping trip to one of the great thrift or consignment stores we have locally. You never know what you might find! Whenever you buy something reused, you are being a recycler, and making the most important step in closing the loop.



piles of books at Lytton Springs