

Donating and selling reusable goods



Keep your durable goods out of the trash! Whether you're moving, redecorating, or just have something you no longer love tucked away in a closet, donation is a great way to give your items a second life.

Getting rid of your stuff

It may be helpful to designate a spot to put everything you'll sell or donate. Some people keep a box or a bag handy and, when it fills up, they take it to a reuse store. Options for getting rid of your useable goods include:

Drop off

Drop off your goods at local reuse retailers like Arc's Value Village, Goodwill or Salvation Army. All you need to do is make sure your items are clean and usable. Many stores offer a coupon or tax receipt for donating your items.

Sell

Sell your stuff at consignment shops or hold a garage sale and get some money back for your goods! Many neighborhoods also host larger garage sales with multiple sellers. The website Thrifty Minnesota (thriftyminnesota.com) posts yearly lists of garage sales by city, or watch your usual neighborhood news sources.

Post online

List your items on sites like Craigslist, Facebook sale groups, Nextdoor, and Twin Cities Freecycle. Sites like these may be useful in getting rid of larger items that would be a hassle to move or something you don't need to get rid of immediately. You can work out a pickup arrangement with potential buyers, or just let more people know about what you have.

Swap

Participate in a clothing swap. Join or host an event where you trade unwanted, usable clothes and accessories. Search the internet for clothing swaps in your area, or check out a guide on how to host a swap of your own (examples: doitgreen.org/wp-content/uploads/swap_guide_do_it_green.pdf, realsimple.com/holidays-entertaining/entertaining/everyday-celebrations/host-swap-party/swap-party-basics)

Choose to Reuse

Visit Hennepin County's Choose to Reuse website at hennepin.us/choosetoreuse to find retailers and services nearby to donate and sell your stuff. The website also includes articles on reuse topics and green event listings. Get Hennepin County's free Choose to Reuse coupon book in late summer for purchasing new-to-you, used items. The coupon book features discounts at reuse and repair establishments around the Twin Cities.



Prevent waste while moving

Be organized while moving to prevent waste. Make sure to give yourself plenty of time to sort through things to avoid feeling overwhelmed. When moving, use reusable or recyclable packing materials such as reusable bags or crates or used cardboard boxes. Use items such as towels, blankets or clothing for padding delicate items. Recycle or donate as much as you can instead of tossing it in the trash. When you move in, properly dispose of any items the previous tenants left behind, and choose to buy used household goods or furniture instead of new for your new place.