

Spring Cleaning

If someone looked in your closet, would they call you a hoarder? Are you holding onto clothing and other items that you simply don't need anymore, but you don't know what to do with any of it? If you are not the type to hold your own yard sale or rent a table at your local flea market, donating to charities in your local area is a great way to clean out your closets, garage, and basement of unwanted or not needed items while helping somebody who may need it more than you.



There are many charitable organizations, nationwide, that offer pick up services. There is no need to load up your car, truck, or van; you can go online, or call, and schedule a pick up right from your home or

apartment. Some agencies that have pick-up services include: Salvation Army, Good Will, Humane Society, Habitat for Humanity, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and Vietnam Veterans. You can visit www.donationtown.org for more information.

A great need in today's world is clothing for unemployed, low-income men and women, looking for jobs, but cannot afford professional clothing to wear on job interviews. Dress for Success is an organization that help women with this need (www.dressforsuccess.org) and Career Gear is an organization that help men with this need (www.careergear.org). These organizations may not offer pick-up services, but their websites can help you find local drop sites or provide an address to send donations.

Locally, one can find many places to donate gently used clothing and household items.

- Local churches hold clothing drives and collect items to donate to other local organizations;
- Community Outreach Centers may collect school uniforms, shoes, coats, clothing, and books;
- Homeless shelters and missions collect clothing, blankets, and coats, especially during cold weather seasons; and
- Thrift stores, although for-profit, take donated items and sell them at reduced costs to low-income families.
- Even animal shelters will take used blankets and quilts to offer a more comfortable space for lost, abandoned, and abused animals.



There is always somewhere to take your unwanted clothing and household items; don't throw them away! Help those in need and donate to a national or local charity. One person's trash can be another person's treasure. It's a win-win.

The following website was sourced and referenced for this article: https://www.donationtown.org

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