

# **Innovative Reuse Best Management Practices**

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[www.NERC.org](http://www.NERC.org)**

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# Reuse – What is it?

“The use of a product more than once in its same form for the same or similar purpose.”

“Reuse involves extending the life of a product by 1) using it more than once (same or new function), 2) repairing it so it can be used longer (replacing the need for a new item), 3) sharing or renting it, or 4) selling or donating it to another party.”

# Waste Management Hierarchy



# Types of Reuse

*Adaptive Reuse*—refurbishing an old/disused building for a new purpose

- A defunct hotel into a seniors housing complex or an empty big box store turned into a community center

*Collaborative Consumption* (“sharing economy”)—economic model based on swapping, trading, or renting

*Conventional Reuse*—item is used again, as-is, for the same function for which it was manufactured

# Types of Reuse, cont.

*Creative Reuse* (“upcycling” or repurposing)—bringing a new function to unwanted materials

- Furniture out of old sign posts; jewelry from scrap

*Deconstruction*—selectively dismantling a building into its components for reuse &/or recycling

*Durables*—goods designed to be used for many years &/or to replace disposables/single-use items

- Metal, glass, or plastic refillable water bottles

# Types of Reuse, cont.

*Freecycling*—giving away unwanted, but usable, items

- Online groups that help facilitate member exchanges

*Materials Exchange* (“waste exchange”)—a service that facilitates the exchange of usable goods

- Brokering &/or an automated online interface

*Reclamation* (“salvage”)—collecting & often reprocessing discarded materials for reuse

- Old barn wood transformed into “new” flooring

# Types of Reuse, cont.

*Rental* (“sharing economy”)—items are shared &/or rented

- Zip Car, Tool Banks

*Refurbish*—Tested & verified to function properly as-is, &/or items are repaired ensuring they function properly

- Refurbished electronics

*Remanufacturing*—disassembling, repairing & reassembling a used product to match the performance of a new product

- Toner remanufacturing



# Types of Reuse, cont.

*Repair*—Recondition an item to be used for the same function as it was manufactured

- Clothing & shoe repair

*Reusable*—an item is manufactured to be used over & over again, & replace disposable/single-use items

- Metal water bottles; reusable bags; lunch boxes, etc.

# The Creative ReUse Project



# Advantages of Reuse

- Conserves energy & raw materials
- Reduces disposal needs & costs
- Returns products & materials back into the economy, benefiting society
  - Keeps resources local & supports local reuse businesses
- Textiles & other items sold or exported return monies to local/regional economies

# Advantages, cont.

- Fosters job training programs & job creation
- Older items are often of better quality & appreciate in value
- Reuse, remanufacturing, repair, & refurbishment of products, parts, & materials economically benefit consumers
  - Used industrial, construction, & medical equipment
  - Automobiles, bicycles, etc.
  - By-products & chemicals

Reusing 10,000 tons of waste  
creates 41-216 jobs

Recycling 10,000 tons of waste  
creates 61-213 jobs

Incinerating or landfilling 10,000 tons  
of waste creates 6 jobs

# Getting Started

- Program goals & the needs of the community
- Establish a volunteer “reuse committee”
- Program options
  - Permanent vs. events
  - Targeted materials
- Volunteer pool
- Partnerships
- Publicity & outreach

# Reuse Programs

# Ongoing or “Permanent” Reuse Programs

- Government, nonprofit, schools, for profit
- Can be any size
- Operated by paid staff, volunteers, or a combination



# Impossible Dream Thrift Store



# Examples Of Ongoing Reuse Programs

- Reuse shed, swap shop, swap table
- Reuse Centers, Teacher Supply Depots
- Restores (reused building supply stores)
- Textile collections
- Community reuse guide
- Fix-It Cafes or Fix-It Clinics/Fixer Collectives
- Repair or tool libraries
- Food recovery, farmer gleaning

# Examples, cont.

- Bicycle repair/reuse
- Materials exchange
- Reusable bag promotion
- Reuse education—libraries, schools, social media
- Re-craft shops
- Teacher's exchanges/school supply exchanges
- Household good exchanges
- Searchable swap databases/website

# Community Reuse Guide

## Reuse & Donation Options

There are many stores and charities in Chittenden County which are interested in buying or accepting used items in good condition. For a list of names and phone numbers, please click on a category below:\*

[Appliances](#)

[Construction and demolition materials](#)

[Architectural/building materials](#)

[Household goods/furniture](#)

[Automobiles/vehicle parts](#)

[Paint](#)

[Books](#)

[Sporting goods](#)

[Clothing](#)

[Toys](#)

[Computers](#)

[Yarn](#)

\*Many of the stores and charities listed below will accept more items than those listed.

CSWD Drop-Off Center [ReUse Zones](#) also accept many items that become free for the taking for everyone.

# Reuse Sheds

- Reuse or swap sheds; “Take-it or Leave it” areas
- Designed for accepting a variety of items
  - Kitchen & household items, games, tools, toys, etc.
  - Or, for specific items, such as books
  - Paint & useable household cleaners, and similar products
- Provides an exchange location
- Participants bring unwanted items and/or take items at no charge

# Location, Design, Budget, & Policies

- Determine the best location
- Is there an existing suitable structure?
- Or, is a building to be purchased or built?
- Funding for renovation or purchase?
- Proposed budget?
- Target materials?

# Location, Design...cont.

- Policies? Items not accepted?
- Design (floor plan, shelving, etc.)
  - Available space, acceptable items, etc.
- Shelving, tables, signage, etc.
  - How to obtain, install, & label?

# Maintenance & Operation

- Staffing/monitoring
- Times of operation
- Tracking system to ensure items move
- Building maintenance
- Keeping the area clean & orderly
- Publicity



# Legal Questions, Liabilities...

- Liability release
  - Signage or a written form
- Sign-in?
- Determining usability of paint/hazardous
  - Ensuring proper labeling of products
  - Products in corroded containers?
  - Unacceptable HHW?

# Other Issues

- HHW or Paint Reuse—precautions
  - Spill kit in or near the location
  - MSDS sheets
  - Will products that emit fumes be accepted? How about ignitable? Poisonous? Corrosive?
    - Is the shed or swap area ventilated?
  - Staff training

# Other Issues, cont.

- Required recordkeeping?
  - Who will be responsible?
- Accommodations for volunteers or additional staff, such as a chair, water, etc.
- If multi-use shed—for non-hazardous & hazardous items—clearly segregate each category/type of item

# Reuse Center—The Beginning







# Share Shed

Free to Leave ~ Free to Take

## Please Share:

- Small Furniture & Household Accessories
- Small Power Tools/Parts
- Gardening Equipment
- Sporting Goods (skis, snowboards, snowshoes, hiking equipment, etc.)
- Camping Equipment
- Toys
- Books

## Please Do Not Share:

- Electronics
- Clothing
- Beds, Mattresses & Hide-a-Way Couches
- Bulky, Oversized Items
- No Motorized Toys
- Items with Safety Standards (ie. car seats, cribs, etc.)
- Hazardous Waste

If you have items that are not accepted here, other options are thrift stores.

**Fort St. John:** ABC Thrift, Community Friendly Thrift or Salvation Army.

**Dawson Creek:** DC Secondhand Store, Mom's & Kid Stuff, or Salvation Army.



# Creative Reuse Centers

- Scrap stores or teacher resource centers
- Collect & distribute unwanted industrial, commercial, & residential items
- Serve teachers, artists, nonprofit organizations, and/or public





# Scrap Exchange Retail Store

## *Artist Marketplace*

- Handcrafted artwork and gifts from local artists and makers

## *Vintage Village*

- Vintage, antique, collectible or otherwise uber-cool

## *Crafts*

- Craft supplies at 50%-75% less than the big box craft stores
- Craft books, scrapbook supplies, rubber stamps, beads, craft paint, art supplies, kids crafts, floral supplies, more

## *Containers*

- Variety of container options including plastic containers, cardboard boxes, gift boxes, glass jars, wood boxes, wicker baskets, tins, more

# Scrap Exchange, cont.

## *Paper*

- New paper, scrap paper, reclaimed paper—\$1/pound
- Paper types include wallpaper, paper samples, office paper, sticker paper, rolls of paper, vinyl paper, & more

## *Office Supplies*

- Paper, envelopes, manila folders, desk organizers, etc.

## *Sewing and Fabric*

- Sewing notions, thread, zippers, yarn, ribbons and trims, fabric

## *AV and Electronics*

- Used albums, CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes, & equipment

# Building Materials Reuse

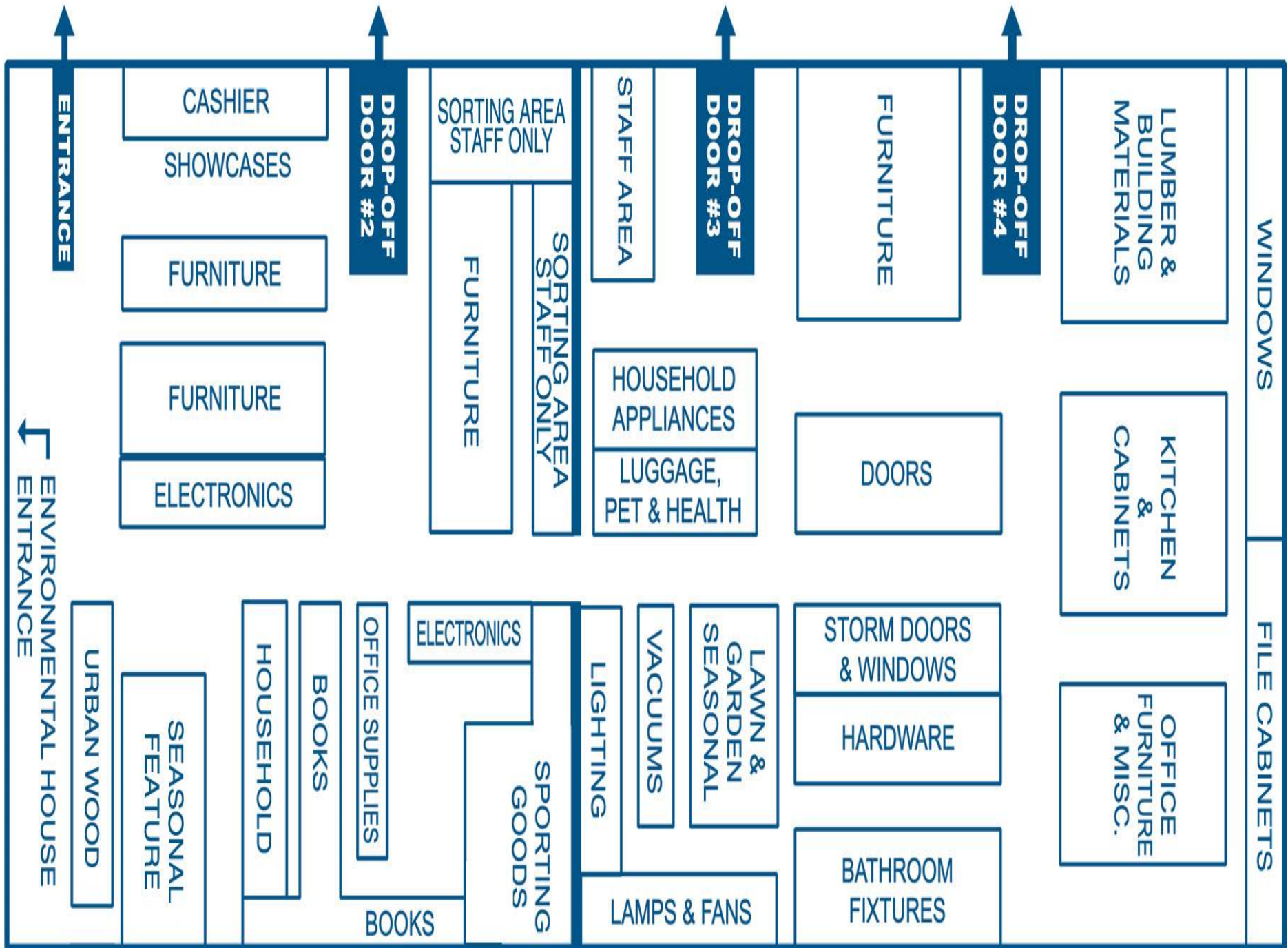
- Donations/purchase used building materials for resale
- Some offer deconstruction services
- Reduces the need for new building resources
- Reduces landfill/incinerator disposal
- Creates value-added materials for reuse
  - Helping to create job opportunities
  - Providing relatively low cost building supplies



# Recycle Ann Arbor's ReUse Center

- More than 20,000 square feet of store space
- Variety of household & building materials at affordable prices





# Finger Lakes ReUse

- REUSE CENTER
  - Retail outlet open to the public daily
- DECONSTRUCTION SERVICES
  - Greener alternative to demolition
- ECENTER
  - Computer reuse, repair, & refurbishing
- RESET
  - Job skills training program
- ITHACA FIXERS COLLECTIVE
  - Community-based repair program
- COMMUNITY REUSE CENTER TEMPLATE
  - Interactive online tool to help communities start their own ReUse Centers





# Book Collections



# Textiles

- 14.3 million tons of textiles in 2012—5.7% of MSW
- 14.4% of clothing/footwear textiles & 17.8% of other textiles (sheets/pillowcases )—recovered for export or reprocessing
- The textile recycling rate (not including reuse) was 15.7% in 2012 or around 2.3 million tons





*Toss it? No way!*

## MENU

**Latest news:** [24/11/14 - "Europe must strive for a circular economy"](#)

What do you do with a chair when the leg has come loose? With a toaster that no longer works? Or a woollen jumper with moth holes?  
Toss it? No way!

Continue reading...

WHEN IN DOUBT,  
DON'T  
THROW OUT

SUNDAY  
FEB 24  
11am  
TO  
3pm

BRING  
IT  
TO THE  
REPAIR  
CAFE





# Repair Café

**SATURDAY MARCH 15**  
**10AM – 3PM**

New Paltz Methodist Church - Main Street

Bring your *BELOVED BUT BROKEN* item,  
and together with our Repair Coaches,  
***FIX* it.....for *FREE!***

## REPAIR STATIONS

- Mechanical & Electrical •
- Things Made of Wood • Clothing & Textiles •
- Dolls & Stuffed Animals • Jewelry •
- Electronic & Digital Devices •

**PLUS:** Great coffee, tea + sweet & savory bakery treats

Call John at [646-302-5835](tel:646-302-5835)    facebook: [Repair Café-New Paltz](#)

**PLUS: Tool Sharpening by Wolf Bravo**



## Hudson Valley Repair Cafes

### March - April 2015 Schedule

#### MARCH

##### New Paltz

Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.  
New Paltz United Methodist Church  
Corner of Main & Grove, New Paltz

##### Rhinebeck

Saturday, March 28, Noon-4 p.m.  
Rhinebeck Town Hall  
80 East Market Street, Rhinebeck

#### APRIL

##### Poughkeepsie

Saturday, April 11, 9 a.m. - Noon  
First Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Corner of Mill and Catherine Streets  
Poughkeepsie

##### Rosendale

Saturday, April 18, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
St. Peter's Catholic Church  
1017 Keator Avenue, Rosendale

##### Kingston

Saturday, April 25, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Clinton Avenue United Methodist Church  
122 Clinton Avenue, Kingston

##### Gardiner

Sunday April 26, Noon - 4 p.m.  
Gardiner Public Library

# Fix Mix

- Social gathering where people share repair skills
- Mend clothes, re-wire lamps, vacuums, electronics, etc.
- Teach others how to mend and repair items





# Reuse Events

# Reuse Events

- One-time, semi-annual, or annual
- Community partnerships
  - Holding joint events
- Can be held anytime of the year
  - Evenings & weekends

# Types of Reuse Events

- Toy Exchange (great for the holidays)
- Kid's Stuff Exchange
- Community-wide garage sales or "Tail-Gate" Tag Sale
- Drive thru reuse (donation) & recycling drop-off
- Reuse Art Rally or Show
- Halloween costume exchange

# Types of Reuse Events

- Prom dress/tux exchanges at schools
- Free piles
- U Price it Sales
- Durable medical equipment collection
- Combined “exchanges” — reusable plastics; usable bikes; plant pot & tray swap/collection

# Initial Planning

- Type of event
- Items to be exchanged, collected for donation, and/or resold
- Anticipated size big of the event
- When & where will it be held
  - In conjunction with another recycling or community event
  - Outside or inside
    - “Rain date”

# Initial Planning, cont.

- Responsibility for planning, implementing, & staffing the event
  - Will volunteers be used?
- Partnerships to implement the event
- Agencies, local reuse nonprofits, or businesses to receive collected items

# Initial Planning

- Additional services needed—hauling/disposal; security; traffic control
- Estimated event costs & how to fund
- Advanced registration for participants
- Event promotion
- Event Day tasks—set-up, greeters, traffic control, monitoring, etc.
- Measure of success—quantity of material, number of participants, etc.

# Planning and Coordinating

- Up to three months—depending on event, local government requirements, experience
  - Permits, insurance, etc.
- Partnerships may reduce planning time
  - Define roles, funding, & other responsibilities



# Budget Items to Consider

- Promotion & outreach
- Operations
  - Labor, equipment & supplies, site rental, contracted services
  - Volunteers to help organize & staff? Sponsors or donors?
- Transportation/hauling/Recycling/Disposal
- Regional event to share costs

# Holiday Toy Swap

**Saturday, December 6**



Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Jefferson County (CCE)  
203 North Hamilton Street, Watertown

*Donation drop-off at CCE:*

Friday 12/5, 5-8 pm & Saturday 12/6, 8-9 am

**The Event:**

*For toy donors: Saturday, 12/6, 9-10 am*

*For general public: Saturday, 12/6, 10-noon*



***What is a Toy Swap?***  
Donate and/or Receive  
CLEAN, gently used, toys,  
games, & working sports  
equipment. Winter  
clothing—boots, snow suits,  
& coats will also be  
accepted.

*The Toy Swap is a free event. Each “shopper” (one per family please) may fill up to one bag with items. Please bring a reusable bag to collect your goods!*

*Grown-ups only, please! This will help keep the “shopping” experience orderly and your kids surprised!*

**Any remaining toys will be donated to local charities.  
Toys for Tots will also be accepting donations of new, packaged toys.**

For more information: Athena Lee Bradley at 802-254-3636 or via email at Athena@nerc.org.

**Sponsors**



Cornell University  
Cooperative Extension  
Jefferson County

*This event is funded in part by a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Programs.  
Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Jefferson County provides equal program and employment opportunities.  
Please contact us if you have any special needs.*



(THINGS  
THAT GO)





# Akwesasne Garage Sale



Saturday, April 18

11 am – 3 pm

850 State Route 37, Akwesasne  
(The old IGA Building)

Spring cleaning often leads to a pile of stuff you wouldn't mind getting rid of. Bring your items to the first ever Akwesasne Community Garage Sale!

Bring your own tables, blankets, etc. Each vendor will be allocated a space of 20 feet by 20 feet. The Akwesasne Garage Sale will be a great opportunity for sellers and buyers alike!!

**Participation is free; however, a vendor application is required.**

To receive the application contact Larry Thompson, Recycling Coordinator – [larry.thompson@srmt-nsn.gov](mailto:larry.thompson@srmt-nsn.gov) (phone: 358-4529) or Athena Lee Bradley at [athena@nerc.org](mailto:athena@nerc.org) (phone: 802-254-3636).

- Applications are also available at the transfer station.

**Learn how to compost!** Constructing compost bins out of pallets, cinder blocks, and other reusable building materials and “how to compost” will also be demonstrated during the event.

In celebration of Earth Day, a “Community Garage Sale” will be held to provide an opportunity for tribal members to sell, exchange, barter, giveaway, and/or purchase usable housewares, toys, games, working sports equipment, clothing, electronics, furniture, and more!



Sponsors:



The event is funded in part by a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Programs.



**Northampton DPW  
Reuse Committee's**

**COMMUNITY TAILGATE**

**TAG SALE &  
SWAP MEET**

**GO TEAM!**

**Saturday · October 18 9-12**

**Smith Vocational High School**

*Over 40 seller participants*





# 2014 BRAIDWOOD ALL TOWN GARAGE SALE DAYS

SPONSORED BY:

THE BRAIDWOOD FIRE SIRENS



Friday June 13th

&

Saturday June 14th

8:00a.m. – 3:00p.m.

(Rain or Shine)



ENTRY FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE BRAIDWOOD JOURNAL, BRAIDWOOD CITY HALL, IN VARIOUS BUSINESSES AROUND BRAIDWOOD OR BY CLICKING ON A LINK BELOW TO VIEW AND PRINT THE ENTRY FORM.

PARTICIPATING HOMES WILL BE IDENTIFIED ON THE SALE MAP & LISTING AND WILL BE PROVIDED WITH A PINK FLAMINGO YARD MARKER WHICH WILL MAKE IT EASIER FOR BARGAIN HUNTERS TO FIND THE SALES.

Maps & sale listings will be available on the day of the sales at the 1st Presbyterian Church on the corner of Main & Lincoln street in Braidwood



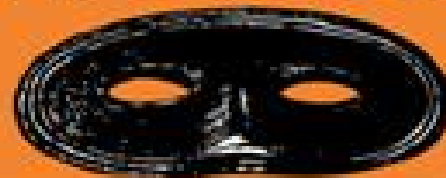
**10/18 is REUSE**  
**BLOCKBUSTER SATURDAY**  
At Smith Voc High School

**75%+ReUse**  
**ART SHOW & SALE**

**9am-3pm**

Costume Swap &  
Craft Collection

**9am-3pm**



**COMMUNITY TAILGATE**

**9am-Noon**

**TAG SALE &**  
**SWAP MEET**

# Recycle Your Reusables



**Saturday, Oct. 25, 2014, 9am-2pm**  
**Ayer-Shirley Middle School**  
**1 Hospital Road, Shirley MA**



*The first 200 attendees will receive a free kitchen scrap bucket!*

## Here's what you can bring

household goods, appliances, furniture	paper and media for shredding
rigid plastic: kids' toys, lawn furniture	Styrofoam and bubble wrap
textiles: clothing, linens, shoes, leather goods, nylons	usable construction items, paint, tools, hardware
automotive tires	office, arts and crafts supplies
books, CDs, DVDs, video games	electronics (\$)
sports equipment: bikes, scooters, race medals, tennis balls, athletic shoes	wood pellet/bird seed bags

AND scrap metal, house keys, eyeglasses, batteries, wine corks, dog toys and more.  
Complete list at <http://tinyurl.com/ryr2014info>

**Free and open to all with a donation of non-perishable foods, cash or checks for Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry in Devens**

**For more information or to volunteer**  
[recycleyourreusables.wordpress.com](http://recycleyourreusables.wordpress.com) | 978 496-5839 | [Ayerrecycles@gmail.com](mailto:Ayerrecycles@gmail.com)

Sponsored by the Ayer Recycling Committee, the Shirley Recycling Committee and the towns of Groton, Littleton and Townsend



CAN YOU SEE A HOME WITH ME  
AND USE THIS TRUCK TO MOVE FOR FREE!

U-HAUL  
Community Giving Tree

615 775

Community Giving Tree



**SATURDAY**  
**APRIL 18th**  
**2015**  
**10am-6pm**

16th ANNUAL  
**EARTH**  
FEST

**KNOXVILLE**  
**WORLD'S**  
**FAIR PARK**  
**FREE**



**REUSE!** **REPURPOSE YOUR WORLD!**  
[www.knox-earthfest.org](http://www.knox-earthfest.org)

# Promotion, Outreach, & Training

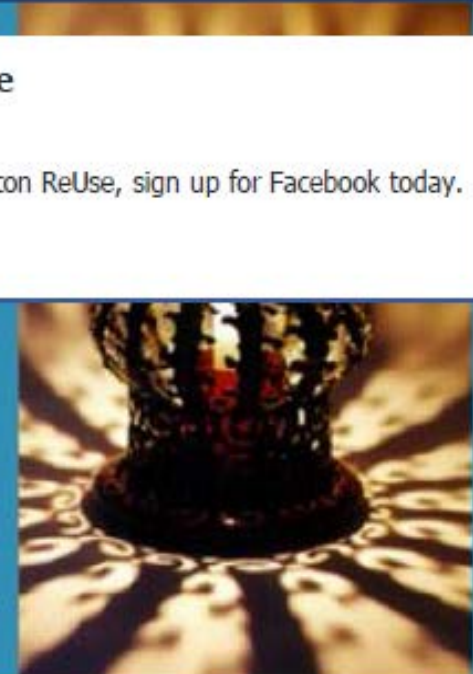
# facebook

Email or Phone

Password

Keep me logged in

[Forgot your password?](#)



## Northampton ReUse is on Facebook.

To connect with Northampton ReUse, sign up for Facebook today.

[Sign Up](#)

[Log In](#)

## Northampton ReUse

101 likes · 37 talking about this

[Like](#)



Community Organization

Mission: In cooperation with Northampton's Administration and Department of Public Works, the Reuse Committee will establish a permanent, physical reuse center and/or resource recovery park in the City, operated under the guiding principles of Zero Waste.

[About](#)

**AMST RECYCLABLES MSBL**  
We will accept any items on the list, including when  
flat on the list but very flammable? Contact Rec-Cen  
Please group and items together in Mailings &  
recycled items after categories: 8, 7, 6, 5  
A. WML Separated in this category  
Most items must be clean, dry, and free of  
metal, glass, paper, etc. (Apply, old, large & heavy  
items)  
B. PAPER accepted in these categories:

101

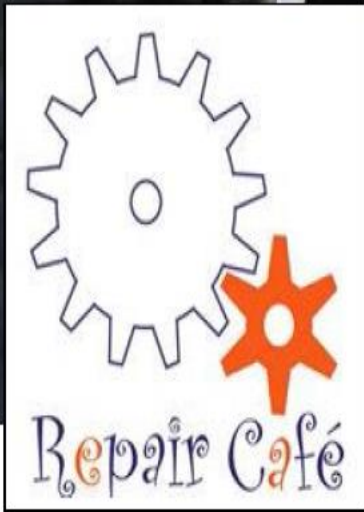


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# Repair Cafe - Hudson Valley

Community

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PEOPLE

Post

Photo / Video



★ Jim Boudreau's ★

**AUTOMOTIVE**

ZERO WASTE DAY  
VNH SCHOOL  
SAT. SEPT. 27

# Measuring the Impact of Reuse

- Number of tons diverted from the landfill
- Avoided disposal costs (donor/seller)
- Avoided purchase costs (recipient/buyer)
- Value of materials donated (donor)
- Revenues earned (donor/seller)
- Jobs created or retained in reuse businesses
- Number of families/individuals/organizations assisted

# NERC Can Help

## We're experts in

- Waste reduction & recycling
- Recycling program design & implementation
- Organics management
- Green procurement
- C&D reuse & recycling
- Electronics recycling
- School reuse, recycling & composting
- Textile recycling programs
- Multi-stakeholder dialogues & negotiations
- & More!

Fee for service program  
makes NERC's  
sustainable materials  
management

expertise available at a  
reasonable price with  
outstanding results

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