### The Joyful Organizer®

#### **Getting Rid Of Stuff**

The following organizations allow you to donate items in good condition.

- The Salvation Army http://www.salvationarmyusa.com
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of America http://www.bbbsa.org
- National Kidney Foundation http://www.kidney.org
- Make a Child Smile http://www.makeachildsmile.org
- Good Will http://www.goodwill.org
- Dress for Success http://www.dressforsuccess.org
- Donate your old running sneakers to http://www.nikereuseashoe.com or call 800-344-6453.
   They will turn them into new athletic equipment.
- Donate your old eyeglasses to The Lion's Club Recycle for Sight Program.
   Visit http://www.Lionsclub.org for drop off locations.
- Batteries are toxic when dumped in a landfill. Visit http://www.batteryrecycling.com to find a drop off location near you where you can safely dispose of your batteries.
- Sell old musical instruments through a service such as http://www.musicgoround.com or donate them to your local school.
- Sell old sports equipment at http://playitagainsports.com. You can also donate it to your local school or summer camp.
- Give toiletries, games, books, blankets, hats, and mittens to local shelters.
- Donate books, games and puzzles to your local library.
- Donate old clothing and formal wear to the drama department at your local school.
- Take a trip to the local food kitchen with any non-expired, non-parishable food that your family has not been eating.
- Donate historic photographs and documents to your local historical society. This will ensure they benefit the community at large, and are cared for properly.

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- Donate toys, books, current magazines, and videos to the children's wing at your local hospital.
- Donate extra pet food, supplies, and toys to local animal shelters and the humane society.
- Donate coupons to the military bases overseas through the overseas coupon program. This
  program helps military families overseas afford groceries. They even accept expired coupons
  http://www.ocpnet.org/bases.shtml
- Contact your local senior center. They may also take donations of blankets, books and games.
- Donate magazines, games, puzzles, books, and videos to your local nursing homes.
- Donate books, school supplies, craft supplies, and toys to your local school system.
- Donate sporting equipment and craft supplies to Boy/Girl Scout troops in your area.
- Donate cell phones, clothing, maternity clothing, toys, and baby supplies to teen clinics and women's shelters.
- Contact your local recycling facility for regulations and guidelines on batteries, computers, oil
  and tires. They may charge a small fee to dispose of items, however keep in mind that the
  item costs money to remain in your home.
- Use free services such as Craig's List, and Freecycle (http://www.freecycle.org) to find the perfect new owner for your donations.
- For items that are in good condition, consider selling your items at a yard sale or bring them to a consignment shop.
- If you are not comfortable selling items yourself on eBay, find a local eBay consignor. They will take a percentage, however, you will not have to do anything but arrange for drop off of the item.
- If you do not have a local ebay consignment shop, you can go to www.auctionpal.com.
- When you are purchasing a new item, such as a computer, ask the retailer what services they
  offer to assist you with getting rid of the older item.

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- Need to get rid of old computer equipment? www.greendisk.com
- Remember to request documentation of your donation from the charity. Don't expect they will provide you with what you need to receive a tax benefit.
- When you donate, keep detailed records of the condition and value of the items you donate for tax records.
- Call your tax professional to tell you what you should keep to obtain the best tax benefit.
- Can't find a charity? Go to www.charitynavigator.org to find one in your area that meets your needs.