

Where to Recycle Options

You want to recycle, but where does it go? Forecast Earth has found some really creative ways to recycle.

1. Vintage doorknobs, radiators, windows and mantels: Donate or sell classic architectural elements to salvage firms or restoration projects. Baltimore-based [Second Chance Inc.](#) accepts salvage donations and trains low-income people in the art of "deconstructing" buildings. If you have usable recyclable building materials try contacting: [The Boston Building Resources](#).
2. Toothbrushes: Recycling manufacturers its [Preserve toothbrush](#) from Stonyfield Farm yogurt containers; return each worn-out brush in a postage paid envelope and it will be repurposed into plastic lumber. The [Radius Original Toothbrush](#) has a handle made of cellulose, an organic fiber. (Radius also recycles the handles of its battery-operated model once the battery runs out.) Or try Eco-Dent's [TerrAdenT](#) toothbrush, which has a replaceable head, so the handle can be reused.
3. Polystyrene "peanuts": All that foam, it could drive you **peanuts!** Foam packaging: Lightweight "peanuts" made from expanded polystyrene (EPS) contain 25 to 100% recycled material. Chain-store shippers such as Pak Mail and The UPS Store (including the UPS Store in Natick) will take back peanuts. We actually **hate** peanuts at the Transfer Station because they blow all over and create litter that is almost impossible to pick up. And it is **not** biodegradable. Please take your peanuts to the UPS Store! We are now collecting large, molded chunks of EPS used to cushion televisions, air conditioners and such right at the Recycling Center. Please bring this type of polystyrene to the disposal area at the top of the hill where we have a barrel or to the Polystyrene container next to the waste oil tank, where we have boxes for polystyrene. Please remove all tape, stickers and foreign material (embedded cardboard and non PS foam) before depositing.
4. Shoes: Old soles can live on with Nike's [Reuse-a-Shoe](#) program which turns used athletic footwear (no cleats) into a material called Nike Grind, used to surface playgrounds, running tracks and outdoor courts.
5. Toys: Give an old toy a new home. Ask your local shelter for homeless families or battered women if they accept gently used toys. The Salvation Army and Vietnam Veterans of America also take used toys. Adult-appropriate items such as board games can be sent to troops overseas through [AnySoldier](#).
6. Here's a great reason to drink wine. Yemm and Hart, which produces recycled building materials, turns used corks into floor and wall tiles. Mail your cork (not plastic) stoppers to Wine Cork Recycling, Yemm and Hart, 510 South Chamber Drive, Fredericktown, MO 63645.

7. Motor oil: Recycled motor oil can find new life as a lubricant or fuel. The American Petroleum Institute estimates the electricity created with just 2 gallons of reused motor oil would power the average home for nearly a day. Preserve used oil in a clean container with a secure, leak proof lid. You can recycle the used oil filter, too. [Earth 911](#) has a list of motor oil recycling centers that's searchable by ZIP code.
8. Formal dresses: Charities like Chicago's [Glass Slipper Project](#) accept donated gowns, shoes and purses to provide free prom wear to low-income teens. Locally, [Anton's Cleaners](#) collects and cleans 'gently worn' gowns and distributes them to deserving high school junior and senior girls who would otherwise not attend their prom. Dresses can be any size but should be in good shape only 'gently' worn. They should be no more than 3 to 4 years old so that they are still trendy. Anton's cleans the dresses free of charge and they are displayed at an annual boutique.
9. Books such as "Always a Bridesmaid: 89 Ways to Recycle That Bridesmaid Dress" offer tongue-in-cheek recycling advice to every woman who has a hideous gown buried at the back of her closet.
10. Glasses: They make a visual difference. The Lions Club and Give the Gift of Sight Foundation collect used eyeglasses, frames and cases for needy people around the world. Donate your glasses at one of 17 Lions Clubs recycling centers, or at chains such as Pearle Vision Center, LensCrafters and Sunglass Hut. Or [email Ed Huppi](#) or [email Bart Morse](#) at the Sherborn Lions Club.
11. Computers, cell phones and other e-waste: The EPA maintains a list of charities that accept used electronic equipment. Staples, Office Depot and Best Buy offer in-store e-waste recycling - Best Buy also recycles used appliances. Dell, Toshiba and Sony lead the way in recycling computer products. Circuit City offers to buy back your old electronics. Donate cell phones to organizations like [The Wireless Foundation](#) or Collective Good. Ship old videotapes and DVDs to Ecodisk or [Greendisk](#). And [myGreenElectronics](#) connects you with e-waste recyclers in the area.

Scan the QR code to visit the [Sherborn Recycling Committee Website](#) for more information:

