

Donation Policy of Community Closet

Thank you for considering a donation to the Community Closet thrift store. Profits from the store are distributed by the Board of Directors on a quarterly basis to other nonprofits and charitable activities in Park County.

Since our 2005 startup, we have been able to give away over \$110,000 to Park County organizations. Store merchandise is also given to schools and other non-profits at no cost.

All of this is made possible by the donation of goods from community members & businesses.

If you have any questions about your donation, please give us a call at 222-6200.

Bringing donations to the store:

- Donations can be brought in any time that we are open (Monday through Friday 10:00 – 5:30, Saturday 8:00-4:00). We are frequently in the store and able to accept donations before 10:00, but please call first. It helps us if you don't bring in large donations during our last half hour.
- Please, never leave donations outside as they will be picked over and damaged by weather, leaving us a big mess to clean up first thing in the morning.
- Donations can be brought in through the store (we have lots of grocery carts to help) or use the alley to drive right up to our back door and ring the doorbell. If you have furniture you'd like to donate, you will need to come through the front door. Mattresses go to the back (alley) door. Please call us before you bring in these large items so we can clear a spot on the store floor – this will let you be unloaded as quickly as possible. Please review our guidelines to make sure they are in saleable condition.

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If you need a pickup:

- Please call the store at 222-6200 and ask to speak with someone about setting up a pickup. Sometimes we can respond quickly, other times we might need several days to get to your request. The truck is used primarily for larger donations – with the price of gas these days, we are really looking at value per mile of driving. If you live out of town, we encourage you to contact friends and neighbors to see if there are several pickups we could do at one time.
- We do not pick up from garage sales.

Tax deduction information:

- We are a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. When you bring in your donation you will be asked if you'd like a receipt. We encourage you to take one, as you never know what your tax situation will be like next year and we will not retroactively write you a receipt.
- We are not allowed to put a value on your donation. Instead, we can offer you a valuation guide that shows how we price things at the store to help you establish the "fair market value."

We have established donation guidelines because items that are not useful cost us time and money. Many people do not realize that we have to pay commercial rates for City trash (based on weight) and we have to use staff to haul glass & magazines to recycling bins.

Our donation policy does **NOT** allow for the following materials:

- Infant car seats, playpens, cribs, or any other device with a child restraint
- Most major appliances (refrigerators, stoves, and washers & driers) because of disposal costs (sometimes we will take them if we confirm they are newer, and the donor is willing to take them to the dump if they do not sell within a week.

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- Ripped, torn, or dirty furniture, or if it smells heavily of cigarette smoke
- Stained mattresses
- Old metal bed springs
- Mini blinds, unless they are new in box
- Encyclopedias
- Exercise equipment
- TVs without remotes
- Downhill skis & ski boots
- Any computer equipment manufactured before year 2000 –any equipment newer than 2000 must include installation cd roms.
- Bottles & jars not manufactured for canning (like spaghetti sauce jars)
- Plastic food containers like margarine containers (Tupperware or similar brands with matching lids are great)
- Incomplete appliances (stereos without speakers, blender tops without motors, etc.)