

## Resources for Reuse

- Thurston County Solid Waste: [www.ThurstonSolidWaste.org](http://www.ThurstonSolidWaste.org) (360) 357-2491
- Thurston County "Where Do I Take My" website: [www.WhereDoITakeMy.org](http://www.WhereDoITakeMy.org)
- Thurston County's free online exchange program: [www.2good2toss.com](http://www.2good2toss.com)
- craigslist: [seattle.craigslist.org/oly](http://seattle.craigslist.org/oly)
- Used Olympia: [www.usedolympia.com](http://www.usedolympia.com)
- FreeCycle: [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org)
- Northwest Building Salvage Network: [www.nbsnonline.org](http://www.nbsnonline.org)
- ReUselt Network: [www.reuseitnetwork.org](http://www.reuseitnetwork.org)
- King County Solid Waste Division Waste Calculator: [your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/ecoconsumer/calculator.asp](http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/ecoconsumer/calculator.asp)
- California Integrated Waste Management Board: [www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Reuse/Links/default.htm](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Reuse/Links/default.htm)



## Organizations that Accept and Sell Used Building Materials

- Olympia Salvage: 415 Olympia Ave. N.E., Olympia (360) 705-1300 [www.olympiasalvage.org](http://www.olympiasalvage.org)
- South Puget Sound Habitat for Humanity ReStore: 210 Thurston Ave. N.E., Olympia (360) 753-1575 [www.spshabitat.org/restore](http://www.spshabitat.org/restore)



# Choose to Reuse!

Thurston County Solid Waste

Reuse • Lend • Borrow • Repair • Buy Durables



## Reuse and Be Resourceful

Reuse tends to be the forgotten R of "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle," but reusing items is even more environmentally friendly than recycling. The term "reuse" means more than just using the same item over and over yourself – it means maximizing the life of the product and all the materials that went into making it. You "reuse" when you borrow or loan items, buy used products, choose durable products at the store, or use old items for creative new purposes.

*"Before we manufacture materials into products, we call them trees, rocks, hillsides and canyons."*

*William K. Shireman,  
Global Futures Foundation*

## Turn Trash into Treasure



## Buy Durables, Not Disposables



# By Reusing Items, You ...

## Save Money

You can get perfectly good used items at a fraction of the retail cost, or earn money by selling off unwanted items from the garage or closet.



*"Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without." – Proverb*

## Reduce Your Carbon Footprint

Reusing products helps prevent greenhouse gases that are released when raw materials are extracted and processed into new items.



## Conserve Resources

Reusing items is even better than recycling, because it doesn't require any further use of energy and resources. By reusing an item, you capitalize on all the natural-resource investments made to create the item in the first place.



## Keep Things Local

Every time you attend a garage sale, donate to those in need, buy a used book, or share an item with a friend, you support your community and protect the environment that sustains us all.



## "Reuse: the act of using an item more than once"

### Reuse Ideas for Work

- Establish a surplus system or a reuse station for office supplies.
- Place a tray by printers and fax machines to collect paper that can be reused.
- Share publications, or photocopy excerpts, rather than ordering several copies of the same publication.
- Use durable cups, dishware, and cutlery in the employee kitchen or cafeteria.
- Reuse packaging materials from incoming shipments as an alternative to buying new packing materials.



### Reuse Ideas for Home

- Write shopping lists on junk mail.
- Punch holes in small glass jar caps to create a spice or cheese shaker.
- Use old toothbrushes to scrub narrow places.
- Hold a garage sale.
- Use empty kitty litter buckets to store gardening tools.
- Buy used books and DVDs instead of buying new, or subscribe to a rental program or service.
- Shop at thrift stores, garage sales and consignment shops.
- Use empty egg cartons to sprout seedlings.



### Reuse Ideas for Play

- Repair broken equipment rather than buying new.
- Use an old shower curtain as a drop cloth for painting or crafts.
- Set up a tool and equipment exchange with your friends and neighbors.
- Rent kayaks, camping equipment, and tools instead of buying new.



*"Only when I saw the Earth from space, in all its ineffable beauty and fragility, did I realize that humankind's most urgent task is to cherish and preserve it for future generations."*

— Sigmund Jahn, German cosmonaut

### Reuse Ideas for School

- Reuse school supplies from the previous year.
- Hold a children's used clothing drive at your school that will benefit a local charity.
- Have a "Clean Your Locker" event at the end of the school year and donate the items to charity.
- Use egg cartons, soda bottles, toilet paper rolls and more for arts and crafts.
- Use reusable containers as part of a waste free lunch.

