

Downsizing and Decluttering – Cook County Resource List

July 2024

First & Second Thrift Store

- Accepts donations of household goods and clothing. No furniture.
- All proceeds go to support local non-profit organizations
- Located at 11 - 1st Ave West in Grand Marais
- Phone (218) 387-1826
- Call or check online for donation days and times, which may vary depending on the season
- <https://www.facebook.com/1stand2ndgrandmarais/>

Grand Marais Recycling Center/Budget Shop

- Budget Shop accepts household items and clothing. Their goal is to keep these items out of the landfill.
- Located next to the Recycling Center at 630 - 5th Ave West in Grand Marais
- Phone (218) 387-3044
- Please check with the Budget Shop before donating, as they sometimes cannot accept new items.
- Open Monday through Friday 12:30-4pm (but may vary by season)
- The recycling center also occasionally hosts Household Hazardous Waste Collections (free of charge) and Household Electronics Collections (recycling fee depends on item)
- https://www.co.cook.mn.us/government/departments/land_services/recycling/recycling_center_in_grand_marais.php

Oddz & Endz Thrift Store

- Accepts donations of household goods and some furniture
- All proceeds go to support local non-profit organizations
- Located at 2066 West Hwy 61 in Grand Marais
- Phone (218) 877-7060
- Call or check online for donation days and times, which may vary depending on the season
- <https://www.facebook.com/OddzNEndzLLC/>

Boreal.org Online Classified Ads

- Their online classifieds page includes sections for “Free Items” and “For Sale.”
- There is no charge to post an ad, but you will need to register for a free account if you don’t already have one.
- <http://boreal.yclas.com/>

Grand Marais Area Sell & Swap Facebook page

- Free online Facebook page to offer items for sale or to give away in the Grand Marais area.
- You must join the Facebook group to post items.
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/308025675887264>.
- If you would like help figuring out how to post items for giveaway or sale, you might want to visit the Hub/Senior Center on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 1-3:30pm for drop-in tech support.

Cook County Community Annual Rummage Sale

- Usually held at the Community Center (317 W 5th St in Grand Marais) around mid-May
- There is a fee to reserve space (in 2024, it was \$20 for two 72” tables and surrounding area.)
- Call the Community Center for more information: (218) 387-3015
- You can also reserve a space online around the time of the sale:
https://co.cook.mn.us/government/departments/community_center/community_rummage_sale.php
- Christie’s note: This is a pretty popular event. If you want to just get rid of a few things, you may want to check in with people you know in the area and ask if they are planning to participate. Maybe they’d be willing to take a few items (especially if they can keep the proceeds!) Another idea is to get together with a few friends or neighbors to sell items – and share in the work!

Lutsen Lutheran Church Annual Rummage Sale

- Usually held during the first part of July
- Accepts donations of household goods and furniture
- Donations are not taken until a month or so before the event
- Call the Lutsen Lutheran Church at (218) 663-7494 starting in May for more information about the sale date and how to donate items.

Grand Marais Public Library

- Located at 104 2nd Ave W, Grand Marais
- Has a scanner that can be used to digitize photos or documents at no charge
- Must store files on a USB/flash drive (cannot send them to yourself via email)
- For more information, phone (218) 387-1140
- <https://www.grandmaraislibrary.org/>

Ideas shared in the class:

- If you’re having a hard time finding a home for a larger set of china, try breaking it into smaller sets (for example, split one set for 12 people into two sets for 6 people)
- Large chunks of old china can be used to reinforce concrete
- If all else fails, find someone who enjoys skeet shooting! 😊
- Duluth area Goodwill stores accept household items, furniture and clothing – including clothing that’s too worn out to resell (it’s used for recycling.)
 - True North Goodwill location finder: <https://truenorthgoodwill.org/shopping/find-a-store/>
 - Article about the University of Minnesota-Duluth’s work in textile recycling: <https://scse.d.umn.edu/articles/textile-waste>

