

## Eco-Cycle Exchange

As you're wrapping up your annual summer BBQ preparations, did you remember the badminton set? Imagine just three blocks away 'Joe' has a badminton set that hasn't been used in ten years that is collecting dust. He's cleaning out the garage and ready to toss that old set in the trash. Alas, the tragedy of a perfectly good badminton set sent to the landfill when someone nearby could be playing a rousing and neighborly game. So how do you get your hands on Joe's practically new badminton set? Eco-Cycle has a solution for you! Now you can get rid of and find free reusable items without even leaving your home! The Eco-Cycle Exchange ([www.ecocycle.org](http://www.ecocycle.org)) is a new online community bulletin board for reuse. Offer up free, unwanted reusable items or browse through listings and find a treasure of your own. Find links to local reuse services in our community, including thrift stores and sources of quality used building materials. You can even search for or post neighborhood garage sales or neighborhood material exchanges like freecycle. It's free to join, free to post, free to browse, and best of all, every item up for exchange is **free**. Think of it as a virtual, no-charge garage sale that you can visit 24/7!

Glance around your office, closet, and garage for those things you have been holding on to. This is the perfect time to de-clutter your space. On the flip side, save time from driving around town and rummaging through thrift stores and garage sales for gently used items. Love to window shop? What better way than to leisurely scroll through free items from the comfort of your own home?

When posting an item, include a short description of the item you'd like to give away. There's also an option to easily upload photos. Try out the search feature to quickly find items you seek. If you don't see what you're looking for, you can also place an ad for a wanted item. The system automatically searches through the available items for a match. If there's no match, kick back and wait to hear from an interested party. Or once you find that item of interest, contact the person offering the item and arrange the exchange. Easy! Did I mention that all items on the Eco-Cycle Exchange are free? Swaps are conducted by the individuals using the site, with no involvement from either Eco-Cycle or its sponsors. Potential recipients should inspect goods fully before acceptance. Eco-Cycle Exchange is a vital tool for creating a Zero Waste community. Too many valuable goods end up tossed in the garbage at the end of the day because people don't know how to find a good home for them. Eco-Cycle Exchange is your opportunity to match your unwanted stuff with a grateful new owner. De-clutter your space, save valuable resources, help build a Zero Waste community, and keep materials out of the landfill – all from the comfort and ease of your computer.

Eco-Cycle Exchange welcomes everyone in the local community to use its service. And it's all up to you! Check it out at [www.ecocycle.org](http://www.ecocycle.org), help spread the word by telling your friends, and come back often! The bigger the network, the better the deals. Now we can all share the bounties of reuse while building our very own Zero Waste Community.

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