



Navigating Aging

Resources for Decluttering and/or Downsizing

Auction Houses

Auction Houses will accept your items to sell and often charge a consignment fee or premium. This is a good way to divest of quality objects as auction houses are, by definition, agents for the seller. They aim to get the highest price possible, meaning there's a lot more upside potential but also more risk if for some reason the piece doesn't sell, since sellers usually pay the auction houses a commission for their work.

- **Christie's** - was founded in 1766 as a world-leading art and luxury business. They have a physical presence in 46 countries. They have online-only auctions as well as bespoke Private Sales.
- **Doyle Auction and Appraisal services** - Will meet with individuals and discuss the appraisal of estates, collections, or single items and subsequent sale in their New York salesroom to an international client base.
- **Sotheby's** - was established in 1744 as a premier destination for art and luxury. Sotheby's promotes access to and ownership of exceptional art and luxury objects through auctions and buy-now channels.
- **Weschler's Auctioneers & Appraisers**-Weschler's has been an auction and appraisal firm in the Washington DC Metropolitan area for more than 130 years. They hold over 60 auctions per year with a range of categories. They can handle a single object or the contents of an entire estate from fine art and antiques, to jewelry and collectibles. www.weschlers.com/how-to-sell

Art

One way to resell art is to contact the gallery you originally purchased the art from, as they are familiar with their artists' collector bases, as well as the institutions that may be interested in an artist's work. If a gallery owner is reluctant to help resell it, an auction house is a good option.

- **Auction Houses-see above**
- **Amy Kuhnert** - amy@murphykuhnert.com

Books

There are a few ways to sell rare books. Firstly, many **small bookstores** may be interested in your item, but this option may require a lot of work as you will need to visit them in person. You might also find that you don't get the right price as the bookshop will be looking to sell it on to make a profit. Secondly, **auction houses** are a great way to reach a number of buyers, and with the right catalog advert, you can make a good profit here. It is recommended that you use an auction house that has an online presence in order to market your book to as wide an audience as possible. There is also a number of **websites** that will help you to **sell a rare or old book**.

- **Book Scouter**-BookScouter.com is a great option if your rare book has an **ISBN number**. Simply enter the number and receive offers from over 30 buyback vendors, allowing you to find the vendor ready to buy your book. For older books **without an ISBN** number, however, you cannot use this site. There are alternatives
- **Fadedgiant.net**
- **Abebooks.com**
- **Ebay.com-Rare Books and Manuscripts Section**
- **Biblio.com**
- **Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America**
- **The Library of Congress** will accept donations of rare books as well, you need to contact them to make arrangements to donate your collection.
- **Georgetown Library**

Clothing - there are many consignment stores in the DC area if you want to try to make money on your clothing. This is not an easy process and some people find it easier to just donate items of clothing. If you do choose to try to sell through a consignment store be sure that you understand their policies. Some stores will donate unsold items, some will return them to the consigner.

- **Consignment Stores - local stores include:**
 - **Ella-Rue-3231 P Street NW Phone: 202-333-1598**
 - **Inga's Once is Not Enough-4830 MacArthur Boulevard NW, Floor 2, Phone: 202-337-3072**
 - **Reddz Trading-1413 Wisconsin Avenue NW Phone: 202-506-2789**
 - **Secondi Inc.-1702 Connecticut Avenue NW Phone: 202-667-1122**
- **Posh** - an online site that allows you to sell your clothing. Although they take a cut of the sale, they make shipping easy and have a good reputation.
- **Dress for Success** - the mission of this nonprofit organization is to empower women to achieve economic independence by providing a network of support, professional attire, and workforce development tools to help women thrive in work and life. www.dcdressforsuccess.org **Address: 1126 16th Street NW**
- **Suited for Change**-Suited for Change's mission is to equip women in need in our community on their path to financial independence by providing them with professional attire, coaching, and skills training. **Phone-202-293-0352 Address: 1023 15th Street NW, Suite 601 Washington, DC 20005** [Email - Contactus@suitedforchange.org](mailto:Contactus@suitedforchange.org)
- **Martha's Table**- accepts donations of gently used clothing in good condition. **Phone:202-328-6608 Address: 2375 Elvans Road SE Washington DC 20020**

Furniture -Some auction houses take furniture, or you can try consignment shops, in addition to listing items online or through Facebook Marketplace

Furniture Consignment Shops

- **Christ Child Opportunity Shop-1427 Wisconsin Avenue NW Phone:202-333-6635**
- **Miss Pixie's-1830 Columbia Road NW Phone: 202-232-8171**

There are many sites through which items can be sold locally. Always remember, if you are not selling a large item, it is safest to meet in a public place, not your home. Village volunteers can help you list items or wait at your home with you for the sale of a large item.

- **Nextdoor**
- **Facebook Marketplace**
- **Craigslist**
- **Classified Ads**

Exchange with Neighbors

You can gift your unwanted items to a neighbor! By gifting your items you are doing your part to prevent items in working/usable condition from going into landfills! If you are interested in searching for no-cost items to exchange, gift, or request in your community use the following resources.

- **Buy Nothing-** this is an online community and is available via an app on Android and Apple phones or Facebook. Those interested in becoming a member can do so by joining a local community BuyNothing Facebook group by searching for a local neighborhood. Many of these groups have a defined boundary for sharing that goes on within the group. You do not need to have a Facebook page if you download the app.
- **Freecycle-**The Freecycle Network is made up of more than 5,000 local groups. It's a grassroots and entirely nonprofit movement of people who are giving (and getting) stuff for free in their own towns and keeping good stuff out of landfills. Membership is free, and everything posted must be free, legal and appropriate for all ages.

Donation Resources-these resources take a variety of items, view their websites for more information.

- **A Wider Circle-**The mission of A Wider Circle is to advance equity in the greater Washington DC region by fostering the exchange of goods, skills, and connections from neighbor to neighbor, and by engaging in advocacy to address the root causes of poverty. Their goal is to help families start anew with dignity and hope. They accept donations free of rips, stains, and excessive wear, and ready to use. You can visit their website to view their wish list and donation guidelines. www.awidercircle.org
- **Community Forklift-**Community forklift eliminates waste and fosters a healthier environment by recognizing, retaining, and returning the value of used and surplus materials to the community. They collect donations of new and gently used building materials and home essentials and redistribute them to the community for free through our community giving programs and at below-market prices through their warehouse store. www.communityforklift.org
- **FurnitureHopeDC-** is a 501(c)3 that provides donated gently used furniture to residents of Ward 7 & 8 who are transitioning out of homelessness, escaping domestic violence or just living without basic necessities. www.furnishhopedc.org
- **GreenDrop-** is a for-profit company that accepts donations on behalf of local nonprofits and pays the nonprofit partners for your items helping them fund programs in your community. You can schedule to have your items picked up online- www.gogreendrop.com

Declutter Businesses -Decluttering has become big business and there are companies that help you with this. The companies we have listed below are smaller, usually one-person operations that we know of and have had good experiences with.

- **Declutter-For-Good- Elaine Weiss 202-468-3407**
Email: Elaine@declutter-for-good.com www.declutter-for-good.com
- **Neatnik -Nicole Anzia-202-320-4204**
Email: info@neatnikdc.com
www.neatnikdc.com
- **Next Chapter Concierge -Debbie W. Sokobin-301-943-9892**
Email: debsokobin@nextchapterconierge.com
www.nextchapterconierge.com