

Cardboard Wisdom for Rotary Auction

written summer 2023- Jean Otto, primary author

Goals:

- Get as much non-useful cardboard in the dumpster as possible.
- Save useful boxes for LOO packing, for sale day display, and for post sale packing
- Sort out and save clean paper and bubble wrap for post sale packing (not newspaper - makes things black)
- Save good grocery bags for departments - flat and organized
- Sort out landfill junk, memorabilia and recyclables. Only corrugated, even fine corrugated cardboard, and brown paper go in dumpster. Watch out for paper that looks like cardboard. Egg cartons and pulpy packing materials are compost.

Methods:

Have people drop boxes in designated BOX DROP-OFF areas near the dumpster.

Pull out useful boxes and move them to the designated BOX PICK-UP area on grass in front of the furniture area.

Save the right size boxes for good paper bags.

Save larger boxes for packing paper and brown paper. smaller boxes for other items in the list below.

Designate places for 1) good paper bags 2) bubble wrap 3) plastic bags 4) metal 5) compost 6) packing paper 7) dumpster brown paper 8) landfill

Cutter person(s) sorts, cuts and flattens.

If a box has glitter, rat poop or is very dirty it goes to Landfill.

When stacking in dumpster: Make each row 3 to 3.5 feet wide and leaning just a bit toward the back to PREVENT AVALANCHES. Keep LEVEL side to side. Shims: (little pieces of cardboard set aside in a box). Use them liberally to fill holes and raise the front of the row a bit. Work them in so you finish the shims that have accumulated by the time you finish the row.

Broken Brown Paper bags: Put in the dumpster but not loose. Pack them into a large box that is square or about as long as a row is wide. Stomp down so the box is really full. Close lid using over/under fold down technique. Put in with a cardboard row upside down. Easiest to place when starting a new row.

Departments who want certain size or type of box before sale day should let Cardboard know and come and check and get them.

As good boxes accumulate, nest them in the pick up area with FLAPS UP so they can be closed after filling.

Nests of boxes and Full packing paper boxes are stored in the locker rooms at the foot of the ramp inside the school and in the designated portables. Check with GT desk for location if you don't know where these are. Wait until there are a good number of boxes to store them because departments come and get them before sale day.

For cutting: use a good sharp utility knife that retracts (your own, at Green Team desk or supplies area)