

HOW TO DISPOSE OF USED LAW BOOKS

Moving?

Downsizing your law book collection?

Having a good old clear out?

LAWYER AND LAW LIBRARY OPTIONS

- Notify **area lawyers**, especially those setting up private practice
- Contact **local law librarians** who can assist with advertising and may suggest possible recipients (*Note for librarians: Always check state laws or institutional rules on the proper disposal of your library's used or donated books.*)
- Post a message on local or state **lawyer and/or paralegal association electronic listservs**
- Inquire at **local paralegal or legal assistant academic programs**

NON-LAWYER OPTIONS

Caveat!!!

Be extra careful when giving law books to non-attorneys. Not everyone understands the concept of "superseded." Do NOT give superseded statutes or treatises to unknown lay people.

- Reach out to **local public libraries** for suggestions of specific schools, shelters, senior centers, etc. that value old law books, in addition to offering them for **Friends of the Library book sales**
- Offer used law books to local **jails and prisons** that maintain a legal research library for inmates
- Investigate **used bookstores** that might accept old law books
- Locate **community bulletin boards** in places such as the courthouse, public libraries, coffee shops, and grocery stores where a "for sale or donation" notice may be posted
- Approach **neighborhood associations and other community groups** that may be willing to publicize the sale or donation of law books among their membership directories
- Identify **area restaurants, theater groups/school drama clubs, and home/office furniture or antique stores** that may consider law books for atmosphere and noise muffling
- Ask **community-access television stations, independent filmmakers, movie studios and production companies** which may need law books for stage or film sets
- Check with **college or university art departments or businesses that present arts and crafts classes and programs** who may repurpose old books in unique art projects
- For very large collections, search the "**Encyclopedia of Associations/Associations Unlimited**" in print or online to locate international associations, such as the Asia Foundation, as potential recipients

- If permitted, create a **“Free Books” or “Books for Sale” table** in the law library or a suitable neighborhood location
- Contact paper and document **shredding services** in your community to see whether they take used books
- Explore the concept of **using books as insulation**, as innovators in Minnesota (<http://arch5541.wordpress.com/2012/12/07/shes-a-book-house/>) and Canada (www.theblockhouseschool.org/2012/12/book-insulation/) have done

OPTIONS IN PORTLAND (OR) METRO AREA

Portland Film Office (contact to find out if any local filmmakers can use law books)

www.pdc.us/portland-film-office/home.aspx

503-823-4039

EFI Recycling (commercial recycling company that may accept hardback books – call first)

www.envirofiber.com/

503-737-2100

Far West Fibers (6 regional facilities that accept hardcover books for recycling)

www.farwestfibers.com/

Metro Transfer Station (2 locations that accept hardcover books at regular garbage rate)

www.oregonmetro.gov/index.cfm/go/by.web/id=570

Pride Recycling Depot (the cover must be removed)

www.pridedisposal.com

503-625-6177

OPTIONS/UNIQUE IDEAS FROM OTHER STATES **(contributed by law librarians nationwide)**

New York

Film Biz Recycling & Prop Shop (film/theater recycling company):

www.filmbizrecycling.org/shop/books-and-periodicals-copy

Arizona

Arizona Center for the Blind (not an explicit service, but recycling/shredding arrangements might be possible):

www.acbvi.org

California

Ambit Pacific Recycling (LA area recycling service that may include book recycling)

www.ambitpacific.com

310-538-3798

Maryland

Books By the Foot

www.booksbythefoot.com/shop/pc/We-Buy-All-Books-d6.htm

New Jersey

Wilmington Paper Corporation (only through established partnership with Wake Forest University's main library to combine all discarded materials destined for recycling)

www.wilmingtonpaper.com/

Utah

Brigham Young University Recycling

In 2006, excess law books were run through a tree shredder before being mixed in with wood chips and grass clippings. Once "mulched," the books were composted and later used as gardening material. For more information, contact Bill Rudy, BYU Recycling (801-422-4662 or recycling@byu.edu) or Dianne Davenport, Howard W. Hunter Law Library (801-422-7475 or davenportd@lawgate.byu.edu).

NATIONWIDE AND ONLINE

Better World Books (BWB reimburses for postage, but may not want old law materials)

www.betterworldbooks.com/go/libraries

Books Behind Bars (by PrisonPenPals.com)

www.prisonpenpals.net/booksbehindbars.html

ALA Recycling Services (book recycling services offered in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, and Philadelphia)

<http://alarecycling.com/recycling/book-recycling/>

Federal Depository Library Program: Needs and Offers list (for use by federal or state depository libraries only)

www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/tools/needs_of/index.html

Public Service (auction site for use by public agencies to buy and sell items in compliance with state regulations)

www.publicsurplus.com

Law Book Network (no-cost online marketplace for used law practice books)

<http://lawbook.com/>

Law Book Exchange (considers offers of antiquarian, scholarly, and current legal practice materials)

www.lawbookexchange.com

eBay (direct or through a third-party business such as iSold It on eBay, which has stores in several parts of the country)

www.ebay.com

www.i-soldit.com

craigslist or **Freecycle** (if available in your city, post items for sale/for free on craigslist or for free on Freecycle)

www.craigslist.org

www.freecycle.org