

BRIDGING AZ FURNITURE BANK



APRIL 22 IS EARTH DAY

In one year Americans generate 236 million tons of garbage. While 30 percent of it is recycled or composted, **164 million tons are tossed away**, including:



26,800,000 tons of food

8,550,000 tons of furniture and furnishings

6,330,000 tons of clothing and footwear

5,190,000 tons of glass beer and soda bottles

4,200,000 tons of plastic wrap and bags

In 2008 Bridging AZ diverted over 430,705 lbs or 214 tons of furniture and furnishings from going to the landfill by collecting gently-used unwanted items and redistributing them to families and individuals in need. The Furniture Bank is a means to reuse. Remember the 3 R's? Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

Can the Trash Can! Please continue to protect the environment by donating your gently-used furniture and house wares to Bridging AZ.

INTRODUCING HEALTHY HOME SERIES

Bridging AZ provides families in need with the basic furniture and household items necessary to create a safe and comfortable environment. Also, by providing clients with beds, we're keeping them from sleeping on the floor, eliminating exposure to a variety of ailments and chemicals. To further support healthier living, Bridging AZ now offers the Healthy Home Series in our

Coming Up Next Month

Best Buy Valley Wide Furniture Drive- May 30th and 31st

Get a \$10 Best Buy Gift Card when you donate a gently-used kitchen table, kitchen chairs and/or dresser at one of Best Buy's 18 locations.

St. Barnabas Furniture Drive- May 16th

Bridging AZ and Allied will be collecting furniture and household items at St. Barnabas on the Desert.

Barcelona Happy Hour & Auction

More details to come. Stay tuned.

Green Tips

Use Compact Fluorescent Bulbs- Replace 3 frequently used light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs. Save 300 lbs. of carbon dioxide and \$60 per year.

Buy Minimally

newsletter. The series provides important tips on how to improve your quality of living in your home.

This Month: Alternatives to Toxins in the Home

Instead of using commercial chemical based products that contain chemicals that are irritants, corrosive, flammable or toxic, why not use a cleaning solution made using everyday household items. Household solutions are gentler to use in the home and are better for the environment.

Note: Homemade solutions compiled by eartheasy.com, for more homemade cleaning remedies visit their website.

Window Cleaner

Commercial products can contain Ammonia, Isopropanol (irritants)

Homemade Solution: Mix 2 teaspoons of white vinegar with 1 liter (qt) warm water. Use crumpled newspaper or cotton cloth to clean. Don't clean windows if the sun on them, or if they are warm, or streaks will show on drying.

Bug Sprays

Commercial products can contain Malathion, Diaxinon (toxic)

Safer Product/ Homemade Solution: For a safer product use an insecticidal soap. For Ants: Cream of tartar/chili pepper in path. Clean counter tops with vinegar & water.

All-Purpose Cleaner

Homemade Solution: Mix 1/2 cup vinegar and 1/4 cup baking soda into 1/2 gallon (2 liters) water. Store and keep. Use for removal of water deposit stains on shower stall panels, bathroom chrome fixtures, windows, bathroom mirrors, etc.

Just to note more and more commercial non-toxic cleaners are coming to the market.

Packaged Goods-Less packaging could reduce your garbage by about 10%. Save 1,200 pounds of carbon dioxide and \$1,000 per year.

Unplug Un-Used Electronics-Even when electronic devices are turned off, they use energy. Save over 1,000 lbs of carbon dioxide and \$256 per year.

Ditch the Plastic-2.5 million individual plastic water bottles are thrown away every hour in the US. Start using a reusable water bottle and just say no to plastic!

*Tips compiled by stopglobalwarming.org. For more great green tips go to their

Do you have a homemade cleaning remedy you would like to share? Post it on Bridging AZ's Facebook.

Through your support: Bridging distributed over \$1,000,000 in furniture and household goods to families in need in 2008.

