

# Have books and media to donate? Here's the what, where and how.

## 1) A checklist that applies to all donations:

- Books are free of mildew, mold, dirt, stains and water damage.
- Spines are in good shape
- Books have intact covers, all their pages, and the binding is good
- Media sets (CDs and DVDs) are complete and have the original case art
- Preferably no more than 3 bags or boxes donated per day

*We suggest recycling books that do not meet the above criteria.*

2) Items of greatest value for the Friends of Montclair Library's daily and annual sales to benefit the library. *Please put in the plastic bins to the right of the library desk during library hours. You may ask for a tax receipt. The Library cannot be responsible for the appraisal or valuation of gifts.*

- Fiction and non-fiction hardcover books and trade paperbacks published within the past 5 years
- Classics, for example books on the top 100 lists on sites such as [www.thegreatestbooks.org](http://www.thegreatestbooks.org)
- Children's books, especially award winners; unused activity books
- Mass market paperback books - fiction and non-fiction published within the past 5 years, including those by popular writers, and classics
- Recent books on CDs, and DVDs & Blu-Ray discs, video games
- Antiquarian, Rare and Collectible books *Note: Books published by magazines are NOT included in this category (for example, Readers Digest Condensed books and Time-Life books)*

3) Other items accepted by the Friends of Montclair Library, often for shipment to Better World Books (*Please put in plastic bins as above.*)

*Note: BWB ([www.betterworldbooks.com](http://www.betterworldbooks.com)) is a good source of older books for purchase. FOML receives income for the library from the books it sends to BWB.*

- Fiction and non-fiction hardcover and trade paperbacks with publication dates older than 5 years ago, and older mass market paperbacks
- Books on CD, DVDs & Blu-Ray discs, video games older than 5 years ago
- Foreign language books (western script only)
- Recent (within the last 5 years) reference materials such as travel guides, dictionaries, and thesauri. *Note: NO encyclopedias, please.*
- College textbooks published within the past 10 years
- Monographs

4) If your items weren't mentioned above, please see page 2 for suggestions about other places to donate books and media. *For all of these organizations, it's best to contact them ahead to avoid a wasted trip.*

## Additional Places To Donate Or Recycle Books & Media

**1) East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse.** A non-profit created by and for teachers. 4695 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland, CA 94609; receiving dock on Shattuck Ave (between 46th and 47th St.) (510) 547-6470 Guidelines for donating are at <http://creativereuse.org/material-donations/>

Here are just a few of the items they accept:

- National Geographic magazines, art magazines
- Media (audio cassettes, records, even 8-Track tapes)
- VHS & DVD movies (but no blank or home-recorded tapes)
- Toys and games (no large plastic playsets or stuffed animals)

**2) For books in Chinese** - Call the Branch Manager of the Asian Library first to ask if they currently want donations (510) 238-3400. If they do, the Montclair Library can arrange to send the books to the Asian Branch.

**3) For books in Japanese** – Friends of the El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave, 94530. (510) 526-7512. Drop-off hours: M-Tu 12pm-8pm, Th 10am-6pm, F 1pm-5pm, Sa 10am-5pm

**4) For encyclopedia sets, Readers Digest Condensed Books and Time-Life books, as well as other items that FOML doesn't accept try:**

**Goodwill:** 1220 Broadway, Oakland (510) 834-6123 <http://www.goodwill.org/>

**Salvation Army Family Store and Donation Dropbox:** 601 Webster St, Oakland (510) 836-8971 Email: [tic@usw.salvationarmy.org](mailto:tic@usw.salvationarmy.org)

**Out of the Closet Thrift Stores:** 238 E 18th St, Oakland, CA 94606 (510) 251-8671 <http://outofthecloset.org/>

**St. Vincent de Paul:** 9235 San Leandro St, Oakland, CA 94603 (510) 636-4252 <http://www.svdop-alameda.org/>

**Bay Area Free Book Exchange:** No drop off location; pick up possible. (510) 705-1200 Web site: <http://bayareafreebookexchange.com/> Use their *Contact Us* form to ask what they accept and to inquire about pick up

**Bibliodrone:** Nomadic bookseller in Oakland. Scott. (609) 651-3306, Email: [Bibliodrone@gmail.com](mailto:Bibliodrone@gmail.com). Web site: <http://bibliodrone.com>

**5) To recycle books and magazines not accepted by the above for donation:**

**In Alameda County** – place the items in your gray recycling bin for residential pickup.

**In Contra Costa County** – Use the *Recycle Where?* function at <http://stopwaste.org/recycling/recycle-results> to find a Drop-Off Recycling Center.