

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release – May 1st, 2008

For more information and to schedule interviews and photographs, please contact info@freecycle.org



The Freecycle Network™ - 5th Anniversary with 5 Million Members!

May 1st, 2008, Tucson, Arizona - The Freecycle Network is proudly fanning the flames of the grassroots wildfire across the globe as it celebrates its fifth birthday today with over five million members.

No one could have imagined that what began as a small circle of friends on May 1, 2003, would have evolved into the Freecycle seen today. A TFN source stated, "it has been said that if the Earth were only a few feet in diameter, floating a few feet above a field somewhere, people would come from everywhere to marvel at it and they would love it and defend it with their lives because they would somehow know their lives could be nothing without it. The founding of Freecycle in 2003 had inspired that same passion within people."

In May of 2003, Deron Beal had a bed that he wished to recycle. He quickly discovered that the local charitable organizations did not accept beds due to health concerns. In an effort to protect our planet and recycle a perfectly useable bed, he started a network of friends online and offered the bed. What began as only 30 members just five years ago has now developed into 5 million members worldwide.

Now there are over 10,000 volunteers who devote their time and energy to this worthy cause. TFN thanks all their wonderful members and volunteers who, they cite, are the reason for their overwhelming success. TFN says if people weren't basically good and giving, Freecycle would not work. However, Freecycle does work. In fact, it works so well that people wonder and marvel at the phenomenal success. Freecycle is indeed like a circle of giving that hovers gently above all the little towns and cities around this beautiful world. Proudly celebrating their 5th Anniversary, and breaking the five million member mark the same day, they think that it is a wonderful thing to be sharing this planet with members like you. "Working together," stated the TFN source, "we can keep it green."

The Network is currently growing at the rate of over 30,000 new members each and every week. This nonprofit gifting movement enables individuals to gift items in their local communities rather than to throw them away, thus keeping over 500 tons out of landfills daily.

Lending credence to their motto of “changing the world one gift at time,” the amount of items gifted in the past year is the equivalent of over five times the height of Mt. Everest when stacked in garbage trucks – over 400 million pounds.

Freecycle is globally local -- Each city has volunteer moderators and a unique email group. Anyone living in that city is then welcome to post items to be given away or to seek items which they might be able to use. Whether it is an old door, a pile of dirt or a computer, it’s probably being given away on one of the local groups already up and running as you read this article.

The Freecycle Network is a private, nonprofit organization based out of Tucson, Arizona, and stewarded by a volunteer near you. Visit www.freecycle.org to find the Freecycle community in your area.

Liberate a garage near you and keep usable items out of the landfill in the process!

Photo opportunities and interviews with your local moderator may be arranged by contacting info@freecycle.org.

The Freecycle Network

P.O. Box 294

Tucson, AZ 85702

E-mail: info@freecycle.org

www.freecycle.org

~changing the world one gift at a time~