

MEDIA RELEASE

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



The Freecycle Network™ - Largest Environmental Web Community in the World!

September 9, 2008, Tucson, Arizona - The Freecycle Network is proudly fanning the flames of the grassroots wildfire across the globe as the largest environmental web community on the planet with over 5.7 million members in more than 85 countries!

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. It was then that Deron Beal had a bed that he wished to recycle but discovered that the local thrift shops 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 over five years ago has now developed into many millions of 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. But it does indeed on a massive, and yet globally local scale. Freecycle creates a circle of giving in each of its local communities around the world. "Working together," stated the TFN source, "we can keep it green."

The Network is currently growing at the rate of over 40,000 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 600 tons out of landfills daily. In 2007 Freecycle was ranked by Yahoo as the third most searched environmental term on the planet following only "global warming" and "recycling."

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 basement 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

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~changing the world one gift at a time~