Reuse as a Sustainability Strategy
Week 5: Secondhand Solutions

Joy Scrogum, ISTC
October 11, 2017
UK Looks to Sharing Apps in a Bid to Reduce Millions of Tons of Wasted Food

By Kevin McCandless | October 6, 2017 | 12:12 AM EDT

London (CNSNews.com) – Citing environmental concerns, people in Britain are increasingly sharing food – that would otherwise be thrown out – directly with their neighbors.

In 2015, the last year for which figures have been released, it was estimated that households in the United Kingdom

The European Union estimates that 88 million tons of food are annually wasted in its 28 member-states. (Photo: Wikimedia Commons/Foerster)
Creative Distillers Tackle Food Waste, Redefining 'Getting Trashed'

October 3, 2017 · 8:00 AM ET

A bottle of Misadventure Vodka, which is made out of discarded baked goods like cake and bread. This southern California distillery reduces food waste while also creating premium vodka.


http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2017/10/06/thanksgiving-meal-food-waste_a_23235139/

Toronto Is Throwing A Free 5,000-Person Thanksgiving Meal Made From Food Waste

Talk about gratitude.

Rebecca Zamer
Senior Editor, Lifestyle, HuffPost Canada

Around Thanksgiving, there's always a lot of discussion of how grateful people should be for what they have, and appreciating every part of their lives.
HP and iFixit talk obstacles to repair

Posted on October 5, 2017
by Colin Staub

Repair is a growing portion of the e-scrap field, and experts predict it will continue to increase as companies learn the revenue that can be realized by reusing rather than shredding certain good-quality components.

Advocates also point to the role repair can play in advancing sustainable materials management. Repair makes up about 3 percent of American employment as is.

“If we’re going to build a circular economy, we’re going to have to increase that,” said Kyle Wiens, founder of repair hub iFixit. Wiens spoke during a session last month at E-Scrap 2017.

A number of factors are hampering its expansion, he said, including repair being “systematically under attack” from several angles. Those factors include efforts by some original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) to limit parts availability and access to repair information, said Wiens, whose organization provides information and tools for repairing electronics and rates devices on their repairability.

One notable exception to the OEM opposition is HP, and the company’s director of product stewardship, John Ortiz, joined Wiens onstage and spoke favorably of repairability and iFixit.
If it's broken, you can't fix it

A “right to repair” movement tools up

From tractors to smartphones, mending things is getting ever harder
'MN's reuse sector directly employs almost 46,000 people and generates at least $4 billion in gross sales annually, or 1.8 percent of employed people and 1.6 percent of the state's gross domestic product.'

Reuse sector pays approximately $1 billion in wages annually and an estimated $159 million in state business, individual income and sales taxes. The 46,000 direct reuse jobs generate another 4,600 jobs in supporting industries.

MN's 3 largest thrift store operations generate $53 million in annual sales and divert at least 11,000 tons from landfills. They reported 154,000 annual volunteer hours, which equates to $1.1 million to $1.5 million depending on the value of a volunteer hour.

https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/p-rrr1-02.pdf
Table 1. Selected reuse industries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Used sales</th>
<th>Rental</th>
<th>Repair</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boats</td>
<td>Commercial machinery &amp; equipment</td>
<td>Appliances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cars &amp; trucks</td>
<td>Consumer electronics, appliances &amp; other goods</td>
<td>Automotive vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General merchandise (any non-vehicle item)</td>
<td>Formal wear &amp; costumes</td>
<td>Commercial machinery &amp; equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor vehicle parts &amp; tires</td>
<td>General rental centers</td>
<td>Communication equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorcycles</td>
<td>Home health equipment</td>
<td>Computer/office machines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pawned items</td>
<td>Office machinery &amp; equipment</td>
<td>Consumer electronics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational vehicles</td>
<td>Recreational goods</td>
<td>Footwear &amp; leather goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowmobiles, all terrain vehicles, jet skis &amp; other off-road vehicles</td>
<td>Recreational vehicles</td>
<td>Furniture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility trailers</td>
<td>Video tapes &amp; discs</td>
<td>Home/garden equipment</td>
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</tbody>
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Note to Table 1: Appendix B describes the specific six-digit NAICS industries. Some industries’ reuse activities are part of a larger function. For example, car dealerships sell both new and used vehicles and repair them. This list is not exhaustive; other industries provide reuse activities as a small portion of their output.
‘First Research estimates the resale industry in the U.S. to have annual revenues of approximately $17 billion including revenue from antique stores which are 13% of their statistics. Goodwill Industries alone generated $5.37 billion in retail sales from more than 2,000 Not For Profit resale stores and online sales in 2014. Longtime NARTS member, Crossroads Trading Co., based in Berkeley, CA, rang up over $20 million in sales 2012.’

‘According to America's Research Group, a consumer research firm, about 16 - 18% of Americans will shop at a thrift store during a given year. For consignment/resale shops, it’s about 12 - 15%. To keep these figures in perspective, consider that during the same time frame; 11.4% of Americans shop in factory outlet malls, 19.6% in apparel stores and 21.3% in major department stores.’
Local Examples

**Clothing resale/consignment:** Karen’s Kloset, Plato’s Closet, Ragstock, Dandelion, Champaign Surplus, Connections (raises funds for Courage Connection), Goodwill, etc.

**Building material salvage:** PACA, ReStore (Habitat for Humanity)

**Furniture/home items:** Furniture Lounge, Classic Home Consignment, Crossroads Corner Consignment, Connections, ReStore

**Books:** Jane Addams Book Shop, Library Friends Store, Priceless Books

**Materials for the Arts:** The IDEA Store (raises funds for CU Schools Fdn., grew out of Home Planet—my friend Carol Morgan’s idea for a local environmental ed non-profit)

**Children’s Items:** All Things Kids

**UI:** YMCA Dump & Run, Campus Bicycle Center
Thrift Story https://www.thriftstory.org
http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcla/mfta/html/home/home.shtml; founded in 1978; 2015 annual report: MFTA member organizations visited the warehouse 6,245 times to pick up supplies valued at more than $9 million dollars. In 2015 more than 1 million lbs. of materials were processed (which would otherwise have gone to landfill)

http://allthriftystates.com; Jenna Isaacson Pfeuller--photographer who shopped at thrift stores during unemployment. Started Kickstarter campaign & partnered with Goodwill to create a photo documentation of thrift culture in all 50 states.
http://rebuildingexchange.org/; in Chicago, IL. 'Since our inception in 2009, Rebuilding Exchange has diverted 9897 tons of building materials from the landfill, and simultaneously created over $2 million worth of quality reuse materials available to the public.'

Sharing Economy Examples

**Tool Libraries:** Often actually hosted at libraries, or within neighborhoods; BloNo example: [http://www.thetoollib.com/](http://www.thetoollib.com/)

**Clothing sharing/subscription:** [https://closet.gwynniebee.com/](https://closet.gwynniebee.com/); [https://www.stitchfix.com](https://www.stitchfix.com)


**Vehicle Sharing:** [http://www.zipcar.com/](http://www.zipcar.com/); enter zip code to find cars in our area
Five simple steps to Zipcar freedom.

**join**
Apply online. Once approved, we’ll send you a Zipcard to access vehicles worldwide.

**reserve**
Find a Zipcar near you and reserve it for the time you need, whether it’s for as little as one hour or as long as 7 days.

**unlock**
When it’s time for your reservation, unlock your car using your Zipcard. The keys are inside the car.

**drive**
Take your Zipcar wherever you want for the time you reserved. Extend in the mobile app or by text message if needed.

**return**
Drop off your Zipcar in the designated parking spot. Lock up with the app or your Zipcard, and you’re done!
Next week—Finding Your Repurpose

Slides will be on course site within a few days.

Questions????

Don’t hesitate to reach out:
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