

GARAGE SALES

Community-Wide Sales

One surefire way to attract shoppers is to participate in a community-wide or neighborhood-wide garage sale.

Many towns and neighborhoods hold these sales annually to attract attention and visitors to their areas, both for the sales and to benefit other small businesses and restaurants in the community.

LAWTON'S LARGEST GARAGE SALE

In Lawton, Oklahoma, their community garage sale is held in a coliseum, as are many community sales across the country. The cover and climate control means these sales don't have the added worry of dealing with unpredictable weather. The trade-off is that vendors have to bring their goods and set up on site. This sale is more like a flea market format, with booths and individual vendors. There's also an admission fee.

CLARK, NEW JERSEY'S, TOWN-WIDE YARD SALE

This town-wide sale has individual homeowners setting up shop in their own



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yards with shoppers provided a list of homes. Sellers register beforehand and, after the sale, the city will pick up unsold items for you. Charitable organizations will also pick up items, including the Lupus Foundation of America.

MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND SOUTH CAROLINA'S LARGEST GARAGE SALE

The Myrtle Beach Convention Center fills with bargain hunters for South Carolina's largest garage sale, including from as far away as

Michigan and even South America, WBTW reported. Carol Dufour from Detroit said she schedules her trip around the sale because of the antiques she finds. Christopher Puzzele of Arizona says some of the items are even free. Even the

vendors come from far afield, says the convention center's sales and marketing administrator, Tiffany Andrews. There were more than 250 sellers from as far away as Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia.

WASHINGTON STATE'S 30 MILES OF JUNQUE

You can also consider joining one of the many miles of garage sales across the country. From Tokeland to Westport and Ocosta, Washington, spans the 30 Miles of Junque event in September. Sponsored by the Westport Grayland Washington Chamber of Commerce, the sale stretches across several days and features special deals on thrifted goods, lodging, restaurants and more.

SPECIALITY SALES

Some specialty organizations such as stables, art clubs, humane societies and other groups will hold garage sales to raise funds. The Art Guild of Louisiana, for instance, held an art supply garage sale over the course of a weekend to sell art supplies at discounted prices. In Florida, Tallahassee Animal Services hosts a garage sale featuring donated pet supplies with all proceeds going to buy needed items for the animal shelter.

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SELLER'S TIP

Tips for Participating in Community Sales

Joining one of these sales means you get a ton of free advertising for your own sale, but don't forget to place your own advertisements, clean up your items properly and display your goods just like in a retail store. Even if the organizers are drawing in shoppers for you, it's up to you to make them stop and spend their money. Also remember to follow the organizers' rules for participating, which may include keeping certain hours, prohibiting the sale of some items, or donating a certain portion of your proceeds to a cause.

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