

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZERS (NAPO),

Greater Philadelphia Chapter

# Press Release

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## **DE-CLUTTER YOUR HOME AND PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT BY DONATING OLD COMPUTERS**

*Support the NAPO-GPC Annual "Get Organized" Event*

**ST. DAVIDS, PA, FEBRUARY 12, 2008:** For most of us, the purchase of a new computer celebrates our keeping up with the rapid pace of technology. But how do you responsibly dispose of the computer it has replaced? And how do you keep old computer carcasses from cluttering up the office, basement and garage? Members of the Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the National Association of Professional Organizers (NAPO-GPC) have the answer with their annual "Get Organized" event on March 29 and 30. This year, NAPO-GPC is partnering with Goodwill Industries of Southern New Jersey/Quaker City and RECONNECT™ - a Dell/Goodwill Alliance, to reduce electronic waste in municipal landfills. Donations of CPU's, keyboards, monitors, scanners, printers, modems, and peripherals from any brand of computer

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De-Clutter Your Home AND Protect the Environment by Donating Old  
Computers

Page 2

will be accepted from noon to 4 PM on Saturday, March 29, in Philadelphia, PA at the Goodwill on Front Street and Oregon Avenue and on Sunday, March 30, in Pennsauken, NJ at the Goodwill at 5461 Route 70.

Approximately 90% of computer contents can be reused or recycled, yet only about 11% is kept out of municipal landfills. Electronics contain toxins that pose environmental risks to the soil and ground water when improperly discarded. Computer monitors contain lead; circuit boards contain chromium, nickel and zinc; LCD displays, relays and switches may contain mercury; and plastics have toxic flame retardants. Making the choice to responsibly recycle your old computers is an important step in protecting our natural resources.

The proceeds from all donations will benefit Goodwill Industries. Its mission is to provide education, job training and employment services that prepare individuals with disabilities and other disadvantaging conditions, such as welfare dependency, illiteracy, and spousal abuse, for competitive community employment. Robert J. Hain, Director - Business Development for Goodwill Industries of Southern New Jersey & Quaker City says, "We are excited about the event with the NAPO chapter in the Greater Philadelphia area because they have a great network of business and residential contacts who are looking for a responsible way to eliminate electronic clutter. It's a classic case of one person's trash literally being another person's treasure." RECONNECT™ is an ongoing program. For more information and a listing of all the Goodwill locations that participate in the free RECONNECT™ program, go to <http://www.reconnectpartnership.com>.

~ MORE ~

# De-Clutter Your Home AND Protect the Environment by Donating Old Computers

Page 3

A Professional Organizer creates solutions that improve quality of life. The NAPO-GPC members are dedicated to providing organizing services, advice, solutions and products to clients in corporate, small business, home office and residential settings. They are specialists in helping clients to simplify, balance and structure their environment, serving Eastern Pennsylvania, Central & Southern New Jersey and Delaware. Through this event, NAPO-GPC members will raise public awareness on the advantages of recycling electronic items. Anyone who stops by to talk with a professional organizer is sure to gain some valuable tips to make their life easier. NAPO-GPC members will be volunteering their time at this event to accept donations and distribute a free, reusable shopping bag. One per family, please. Some area professional organizers may also accept items in advance to bring to the event; please check with your organizer in advance. NAPO-GPC chapter president, Anna Sicalides, comments, "Goodwill's recycling program provides a responsible and legal way for our clients to dispose of unwanted gear, just at the time of the year that people are upgrading or taking on organizing projects. Their RECONNECT™ program is already established and supports our professional organizers who promote "green" efforts."

Donors are strongly advised to protect their identity by removing data from the hard drive. Neither Goodwill nor NAPO-GPC or its members will be responsible for any data left on recycled computers. For more information on how to remove data prior to donating, information can be found through an online search or by going to: [http://www.greenerchoices.org/electronicsrecycling/el\\_computers.cfm?page=ProtectIdentity](http://www.greenerchoices.org/electronicsrecycling/el_computers.cfm?page=ProtectIdentity)

**About NAPO-GPC**

~ MORE ~

De-Clutter Your Home AND Protect the Environment by Donating Old  
Computers

Page 4

The non-profit Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the National Association of Professional Organizers has been in existence since 1996 and has more than 80 members serving Eastern Pennsylvania, Central & Southern New Jersey, and Delaware. The Greater Philadelphia Chapter is part of the national nonprofit organization, NAPO, which has been active since 1985 and consists of more than 4,000 members throughout the United States and in eight other countries. Each year, NAPO's dozens of chapters and thousands of members hold public *Get Organized Month*<sup>SM</sup> events throughout the country. For additional information or to find a professional organizer, visit the NAPO-GPC website at [www.napo-gpc.org](http://www.napo-gpc.org) .

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