

The Gainesville Zero Waste News

The “Buy Nothing” Trend Gaining Momentum

You’ve probably heard of the Buy Nothing groups – local, community-based networks where members give away or receive items for free, without any exchange of money. Originating from the Buy Nothing Project, these groups promote a gift economy that strengthens neighborhood connections while helping reduce waste.

How exactly do you “Buy Nothing”? By sharing items such as clothes, furniture, tools, or even food, members of Buy Nothing groups divert usable goods from landfills, reducing environmental impact. After all, landfills eventually fill up. Items that may otherwise be discarded find new homes, contributing to sustainability by extending their life cycle.



In addition to minimizing waste, these groups foster a sense of community. Neighbors come together through acts of generosity and support, building relationships that take us out of our isolated bubbles. Whether it’s gifting an item, lending a hand, or simply expressing gratitude, Buy Nothing groups help create stronger, more connected communities.

By participating in a Buy Nothing group, individuals can save money, reduce their carbon

footprint, and make meaningful connections with their neighbors—all while helping create a more sustainable, waste-conscious society.

Currently, the best place to find these groups is social media, where there are nearly 20 such groups just in the Gainesville / Alachua County area.

Learn more about ways to save the environment while saving money at gainesvillefl.gov/ZeroWaste, or follow us on social media – @ZeroWasteGNV on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

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