



## Media Advisory

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# **DON'T TOSS THAT!**

## **Call 2-1-1 when Spring Cleaning**

SAN FRANCISCO, March 24, 2010 – Spring is here! It's the time of year when many garages and basements are cleaned up and cleared out. Bay Area residents who are spring cleaning are encouraged to call 2-1-1 to donate clothing or household items to help those in need.

**Donated items should be clean and in good, working order.**

2-1-1's Information & Referral specialists can match donated items to nonprofits that need them. Frequently donated items include furniture, clothing and appliances. Nonprofit organizations also accept a variety of other items such as animal supplies, books, bed linens and automobiles. Some agencies even offer pick-up service for donations.

Most nonprofits do not accept television sets that are "pre-DTV," old computers, and non-working electronic equipment. 2-1-1 can provide information about agencies that accept electronic waste in your area.

### **About 2-1-1 Bay Area**

Launched throughout the Bay Area in February 2008, 2-1-1 is an easy-to-remember, toll-free phone number that connects callers with local community services, such as food, shelter, counseling, employment assistance, quality child care and more. During a disaster, 2-1-1 provides critical information about evacuation routes, food and shelter, as well as support with finding new jobs and permanent housing during long-term recovery. 2-1-1 is confidential and available 24 hours a day in more than 150 languages. 2-1-1 Bay Area is operated by United Way of the Bay Area, United Way Silicon Valley, United Way of the Wine Country, Eden I&R, and Contra Costa Crisis Center. 2-1-1 is available in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Mendocino, Napa, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Solano and Sonoma Counties. For more information, visit [www.211BayArea.org](http://www.211BayArea.org).