

Downsizing

This list was created from all the experience I have from supporting my family and clients. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

House Repairs:

Does the house need repairs prior to sale or renting? Can you do any of it or do you need to hire someone? Can it be a handy person, or do you need a contractor? This can take time so, get started on this ASAP. You should also contact multiple realtors to get an idea of what the market is in the area.

Automobiles:

Do they need to be sold? Do you have the pink slip? Are registration and maintenance up to date? There are so many options out there to sell automobiles. Understanding the worth of the auto and your time should determine how you move forward.

Items you will keep:

Avoid storage! Many times, the items put into storage are not worth a years' storage fees. When packing the items to keep we try to get boxes for free. You can put a request on Next Door, go to your local grocery store and get boxes from the recycle. Purchase packaging materials only for specialized items.

Items to be sold:

This is a big one. There are many things to consider. Are there enough items in the home to hire an estate agent? Do you have the time to sell the items yourself on eBay, Craigs list, Next Door, or have a garage sale?

Remember your time is worth money!

Analyzed items to be donated and where:

Good Will, Salvation Army (takes unopened personal products), Habitat for Humanity Restore, office items and stationery could go to the local schools, shelters for women, children, homeless etc.

E-waste and Toxic Materials:

Gather and dispose of e-waste (this could be an e-waste drive, or your local garbage company may take them as well). Expired and unused meds (you may be able to drop these off at your local pharmacy).

Documents:

You need to determine; What can go to recycle, and what needs to be shredded. In most cases you will want to get the shredding done through a professional. I contacted a shredding company and had choices of either boxes or bins to be delivered (this depends on how much you have). You fill the boxes or bins and call the company when you are finished. It's great because you can put credit cards and you don't have to remove staples

Items for free:

As you go you will find items that are not worthy or a hassle to donate. We start with putting them out at the curb. Items of all kinds go fast you will be amazed how fast.

Garbage and Dump items:

I leave this item for last because my goal is to have as little going into the landfill as possible. Dumpsters are expensive as well. You can contact your local garbage company and see if they will do a special pickup for you. We have been able to do that at no extra cost.