

Salvage Sheds in Orange County, a Snapshot



BLAIR L. POLLOCK
SOLID WASTE PLANNER ORANGE COUNTY NC
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BPOLLOCK@ORANGECOUNTYNC.GOV

Sheds set up at all sites



- Staffed sites started 1993
- Six sites replaced 19 unstaffed sites throughout Orange County
- Eventually all but one got sheds (too small)
- Now five sites – four have sheds
- Active all the time
- A source of conflict and joy
- Wide variety of users

Types of Shed Users



● Dropping Off

- Good reusable items
- “Someone could use this if they just fix it up”
- The clueless – expired food, three legged tables, broken dishes

○ Picking Up

- For home use
- For re-sale (the perennial yard sale, Craigs list, flea markets?)
- Scrap metal scavengers
- Re-distribution to the needy

The workers hate me for the sheds



- Source of conflict among users
- Workers have to clean at the end of the day – est. 30% discarded (like PTA thrift stores)
- Dangerous – glass objects are broken
- Children unsupervised, playing with stuff

The RULES



SALVAGE SHEDS ARE TO KEEP USABLE ITEMS OUT OF THE LANDFILL

- Orange County Residents ONLY.
- No garbage or yard sale remnants.
- No broken or stained objects.
- No clothing, mattresses, sleeper sofas, box-springs, toilets or broken mirrors.
- No construction material, paint or hazardous material.
- Be respectful of this site and other peoples' property.
- Orange County makes no warranties or guarantees of any kind on any item in this Salvage Shed.
- Center operator has final say on item acceptability.
- Orange County does not permit loitering at this site.

VISITS ARE LIMITED TO 10 MINUTES ONCE PER DAY

Orange County Solid Waste Management Department (919) 968-2788

**LOS COBERTIZOS DE OBJETOS RECUPERADOS SON PARA EVITAR
QUE COSAS UTILIZABLES VAYAN A LA BASURA**

More RULES



Eubanks Shed (the busiest) in action



At the end of the day.....



REALLY PEOPLE!



The lively and not-so-lively bookshelves



Everything here gone in 15 minutes



The Bryants and their haul



Retail Value of the Bryant's Haul



- Space heater..... \$38
- Dumbbell..... \$25
- Three-Tier Metal Shelf..... \$30
- 3 extension cords: (total value)..\$15
- Three drawer rolling storage.....\$19
- **Total retail value saved:** **\$127**
- Time on site: <15 minutes

Dr. Kennedy and his amusements (my hero)



My neighbor Rick goes ~three times a week and:

- All his 3 daughters' Christmas Presents from THE SHED
 - He scavenges school supplies for local elementary school
 - Brings gifts to work for others
 - Cleans stuff up & uses it
- "It keeps me out of trouble"

What Gets Dropped Off



Birdhouse
Glass block
Plastic Toilet seat for handicapped
Books
Figurines
Suitcase
Dimmer Switch
Bar Stool
Router
Computer connecting cables
Large wooden shelving unit
Electric cord
CD Player/boombox/radio

Eubanks 4 day Inventory -- extrapolated



		# Items in	# Cars Dropping off	Lbs. IN	Ave lbs/car In	Items out	Ratio Out/In	Thrift Store Value	# of "Shoppers"
	Thursday	25	20	210	11	11	44%	\$ 33	27
	Friday	69	11	326	30	18	26%	n/a	48
	Saturday	222	17	1,024	60	54	24%	\$ 110	60
	Sunday	195	20	1,206	60	14	7%	\$ 29	39
	Totals	511	68	2,766	41	97	19%	\$ 172	174
Annual	----->	195,969	26,078	1,060,761		37,200		\$ 87,949	66,729
				530	TONS				
AVOIDED TIPPING FEES				\$ 23,602					
Total value thrift store value + tip fee				\$ 111,551					