



Lions Clubs International

A CLUB GUIDE FOR COLLECTING USED EYEGLASSES



LIONS EYEGLOSS RECYCLING PROGRAM



Why Get Involved in Eyeglass Recycling?

The World Health Organization estimates that 120 million are visually impaired because of uncorrected refractive errors (far and near sightedness). Refractive errors can be easily diagnosed, measured and corrected with eyeglasses, contact lenses or refractive surgery. Yet, millions of people lack access to these basic services.

Participation in the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Program can raise your club's visibility and provide your fellow Lions and Leos with a team project that is both easy and rewarding. The donated eyeglasses collected by your club can help improve the quality of life for children and adults living in low and middle income communities around the world. Many will experience corrected vision for the first time, enabling them to lead productive working lives, support their families, attend school and advance their education.

Starting the Collection Process

Step One: Designate a member of your club to organize and maintain the eyeglass collection efforts of your club.

Step Two: Determine the collection containers your club will use. Your district may already offer eyeglass collection containers for club collection projects. If not, you can purchase official eyeglass collection boxes from the Lions Clubs International online store (item #G1174DS) at www.lionsclubs.org.

Your club may also choose to design its own custom collection boxes using the official Lions logo and the Lions Recycle For Sight logo. Both logos are available for download on the association's website.

Step Three: Identify locations throughout the community to place collection boxes. Explain the benefits of recycling eyeglasses to the proprietors and obtain permission prior to placing the recycling boxes in the desired areas. Community collection points can include:

- Banks
- City administrative center
- Coffee shops and restaurants
- Community recreation centers
- Commuter stations
- Stores
- Medical facilities
- Educational facilities
- Libraries
- Pharmacies
- Places of worship

Step Four: Set up the eyeglass collection boxes throughout the community. Various types of glasses for children and adults are needed, including very strong and very weak prescriptions. Reading glasses and non-prescription sunglasses are also needed.

Lions eyeglass collection boxes placed in public places represent not only your club, but Lions Clubs International. The boxes should be clean, attractive, in good condition and emptied at regular intervals.





Step Five: Promote your recycling project. The following suggested activities can help promote your club and maintain a successful eyeglass recycling program in your community:

- List your collection sites on your club's webpage, social media pages, community newspaper, or your local cable network.
- Hold an eyeglass collection in coordination with a community health fair event or a community "spring cleaning" initiative.
- Give a "Recycle For Sight" presentation at a local school and encourage students' participation in eyeglass collection.

Step Six: All collection boxes should be emptied on the 1st and 15th of each month, or more frequently, if necessary. Your club's name and current contact information should appear on the box in the event the box needs to be emptied or replaced.

Determine if the collected glasses will be shipped to a regional recycling center or one of the official [Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers](#) that are listed on the association's website. Contact the center regarding packaging and shipping instructions. Prior to shipment, your club is encouraged to pre-sort the collected eyeglasses by removing any eyeglass cases or loose lenses.

Step Seven: Remember to report your club's eyeglass recycling projects in the Service Activity Report of MyLCI. Share the end results of your collection campaign with all participating club and community members, and recognize their contribution in making the project a success.

Resources

All the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Program resources are available for download on the association's website.

- The ***Lions Recycle For Sight brochure*** (IAD-403) is an informational publication for Lions, Leos or community members interested in eyeglass collection.
- The ***Lions Recycle For Sight Certificate of Appreciation*** (IAD-405) can be awarded to those who support your eyeglass recycling program.
- The ***Lions Recycle For Sight Collection Location Form*** (IAD-404) enables your club to list community collection sites on the association's Club Locator. This is helpful for members of the public who visit the LCI website in search of a location to donate glasses. Please complete the form and submit to eyeglasses@lionsclubs.org
- The ***Lions Recycle For Sight and Lions Clubs International logos*** can be used in community announcements or other communications to promote your project.

For More Information

For additional information about the Lions Clubs International Eyeglass Recycling Program, please direct your inquiries to:

Lions Clubs International

Ph: 630.571.5466

Email: eyeglasses@lionsclubs.org

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

Helen Keller



Lions Clubs International

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