

Trade a book for Mother Earth

I've been thinking about ways that we can be more Green. So here's an article I put together on one way we can do Mother Earth a favor.

Do Mother Earth a favor and trade in your old books.

Running out of space on your bookshelves? Need to make room for something new to read? For Mother Earth's sake don't send them to a landfill! Instead, trade in your old books at your local used bookstore for store credit and save yourself some green on new reading material.

Trading books is easy. At most used bookstores, you can drop off your books at the counter and go shop while the clerk processes them and calculates your trade credit. In addition to mass-market paperbacks, some bookstores accept cookbooks, audio books, hardbacks, and children's books, so your non-paperback books can have a chance at a new life, too.

Trade policies vary by bookstore, including the number of books you can bring in at one time, so you might want to call ahead or check the store's web site before loading up your car. You can usually expect to receive about 30% of a mass-market paperback's cover price in store credit. Some stores charge an administrative fee for that credit, others when you take books out. Some only allow you to pay for half of your purchase with store credit; you pay the rest with cash or credit card. Be sure to ask for details when you drop off your books at the counter.

Here's a list of local used bookstores that accept trades:

Here Be Books accepts mass-market & trade paperbacks, hardbacks, roleplaying games, cookbooks, children's books, and audio books on CD.
Location: 4650 Ladson Road, Summerville. Phone: (843) 695-1498
Hours: Tues thru Sat 10 am to 6pm. Web: www.HereBeBooks.com.

Trade-A-Book accepts mass-market paperbacks, audio books on CD, children's books, and some nonfiction in both paperback and hardback.
Location: 428A Trolley Road, Summerville. Phone: (843) 873-4207.
Hours: Mon thru Fri 10 am to 6:30 pm; Sat 10 am to 6pm.

Book Exchange accepts mass-market paperbacks, audio books, and children's books.
Location: 1131 Savannah Hwy, West Ashley. Phone: (843) 556-5051.
Hours: Mon thru Fri 10 am to 8 pm; Sat 10 am to 6 pm.

Books on Main accepts mass-market paperbacks and audio books.
Location: 328 E Main St., Monks Corner. Phone: (843) 899-2665.
Hours: Mon thru Fri 10 am to 6 pm; Sat 10 am to 2 pm.

Dream-a-Lot Books accepts paperback and hardback books, audio books, videos, and music CDs.
Location: 123B S Goose Creek Blvd, Goose Creek. Phone: (843) 572-4188.

Hours: Mon thru Sat 10 am to 7 pm; Sun 1 pm to 5 pm. Web: www.dreamalotbooks.com.

Sullivan's Trade-A-Book accepts paperbacks and audio books.

Location: 1303 Ben Sawyer Blvd., Mt. Pleasant. Phone: (843) 884-8611.

Hours: Mon thru Fri 10 am to 6:30 pm; Sat 10 am to 6 pm.

Two used bookstores in the area *buy* books. What they buy varies with their current needs. You won't get as much dollar-wise by selling your books as you would trading them in, but it'll put a *little* green in your pocket.

Here Be Books in Summerville is always looking for current science fiction/fantasy - their specialty - and paranormal, as well as local South Carolina history, ancient history, children's series books, roleplaying games, and classics. They're the kinds of books they don't receive enough as trades, so to keep their stock up, they buy. *Here Be Books'* interest in other categories varies with their stock, so give them a call to see what they're looking for.

Blue Bicycle, located in downtown Charleston, is interested in art, architecture, eastern religion, photography, military history, poetry and other categories. Their interests, too, depend on current stock.

So, do Mother Earth and your pocket book a favor: don't send your old books to a landfill. Trade them in for store credit at your local used bookstore.

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