



Your Guide to a Successful Yard Sale



City of American Canyon



How to turn your unneeded household items into treasure and still be a good neighbor

Code Enforcement Division
(707) 647-4599



Yard and Garage Sales are a great way to get rid of unnecessary stuff around the house and make a few bucks in the process. They are also a good way to raise funds for a worthy cause.

The City of American Canyon has a community-wide yard sale every year the first weekend after Memorial Day. If you participate, we will advertise for you! Find out more at www.cityofamericancanyon.org.

If you organize a sale on your own, please take a few minutes to read the rules that apply.

City of American Canyon

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Yard Sale Regulations

Title 19.10.110 of the American Canyon Municipal Code deals with yard sales, garage sales, estate sales and other personal property sales.

The regulations stipulate:

MERCHANDISE: Only the sale of personal household items is allowed. The sale of items acquired for resale or items assembled or manufactured on the premises (including products from a home occupation but excluding arts and crafts items) for the purpose of resale is prohibited. All transactions shall take place on the property of the owner conducting the event.

DISPLAYS: No item for sale shall be displayed within the public right-of-way.

DURATION & FREQUENCY: A sale or auction shall not exceed three consecutive days and occur no more than six times per calendar year on any one parcel. This regulation does not preclude the sale of individually advertised items at any time, provided they are not displayed so as to be visible from public view, other than legally parked vehicles and trailers.

SIGNS: All signs shall conform to the requirements set forth in Municipal Code Chapter 19.23 for sign regulations.



Tips from Yard Sale Experts

- ◆ Plan ahead! Garage and yard sales are a lot of work, so maximize the return on your effort.
- ◆ Consider going in with other families in your neighborhood to increase the variety of things for sale.
- ◆ The best days for sales are Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Sundays are typically not great draws.
- ◆ Clearly mark the price of every item.
- ◆ Have plenty of change (coins and small bills) in your pocket— but not lying around!
- ◆ Have electrical outlets available so people can confirm that things work.
- ◆ Cookies and lemonade are great sellers.
- ◆ You can advertise your sale for free on Craigslist; GarageSaleHunter.com; and YardSaleTreasureMap.com.
- ◆ Ask if you can post flyers on community bulletin boards, at churches, the library, etc., and pass them out to your neighbors and friends. Please do NOT post flyers on signs around town— it creates visual blight and violates the Municipal Code.



Please be a good neighbor!

Signs like these detract from the beauty of our community, violate the Municipal Code, and create extra work for our Public Works crew.

Get Their Attention!

List big, unusual or interesting items that people will want to buy. Include details about size, history or condition if relevant.

Include your street name on flyers but not the address. That way you can advertise early but won't be bugged by people hoping for a sneak peak.

Use eye-catching headlines in advertising:

- * **LOTS AND LOTS OF STUFF!**
- * **GRANDPARENTS' ATTIC**
- * **DAUGHTER MOVED OUT**
- * **DOWNSIZING FOR RETIREMENT**
- * **ACCUMULATED OVER 50 YEARS!**

For the Good of the Neighborhood...

Garage and yard sales draw lots of enthusiasts, so let your neighbors know when you're having a sale. Make sure you open your doors when you say you will to keep traffic flowing. And pick up any litter left by your customers!

Recycle What Doesn't Sell

Since you've gone to all the work of decluttering your house of things you don't need, consider these alternatives for getting rid of leftovers.

- ~ A charitable organization may offer free pick up of large items, and second-hand stores and local shelters may also accept clean clothing, toys, blankets, and books.
- ~ *Consumer Reports* suggests online auctions and consignment shops for valuable items.
- ~ The Devlin Road Reuse & Recycling Center (258-9018) will take reusable items, and the Transfer Station (252-5200) will take e-waste (anything with a cord) at no charge. American Canyon Recology at 2021 Broadway in Vallejo (552-3110) also accepts e-waste from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays.

Sign Regulations

The Municipal Code allows one sign per residence at the site of the sale and one directional sign.

Signs should be free-standing and no more than 4 sq. ft. They should be placed at a maximum height of 4 feet. A permit is not required.

Signs should not be placed any earlier than 72 hours prior to the sale and must be removed within 72 hours of the event.



A weighted cardboard box with a poster attached makes a good sign for your front yard. A tall narrow box (like the shipping box below) is a good size.

Make sure you don't obstruct visibility for passing traffic in placing your sign.



- One sign at the site of the sale and one street directional sign are allowed per residence.
- Directional signs may be placed in the public right-of-way, but not in a street median.
- **IMPORTANT:** Signs may NOT be affixed to city street or utility poles of any kind.
- The City maintains the right to remove any signs from public property for health and safety reasons without prior notice.