

Don't trash it – fix it! at a Ramsey County Fix-It Clinic

Most of us think of “recycling” as the process of converting an item, like a used aluminum can, into something new, like a brand-new aluminum can. But recycling can also mean converting damaged or non-working appliances, electronics, household items and clothing into fully functional and useful items again. That’s the philosophy behind Ramsey County’s highly popular Fix-It Clinics, which helps keep broken items out of the trash by repairing them for free.

No appointment is needed to visit the free, monthly Fix-It Clinics. Simply bring in your broken item(s). After completing a brief consent form, you and your volunteer Fixer will work together to disassemble the item, troubleshoot any issues and repair it if possible. Along the way, you will learn valuable repair skills you can apply in the future.

To make the most out of your visit to a Fix-It Clinic, here are some tips for success:

- **Bring easy-to-carry items** – You will be responsible for carrying your item(s) into and out of the Fix-It Clinic, including properly disposing of any non-fixable item(s). Oversized items are not permitted.
- **Bring any parts or tools you may need** – Bring along anything you think might be helpful to complete the repair. Note that general tools are also provided.
- **Bring the owner’s manual, if available** – If you still have the owner’s manual to your non-functioning electronic or household item, bring it along for reference.
- **Learn from your Fixer** – Ask questions and be an active participant in the repair process. Take notes and photos; they might be helpful for future reference.
- **Be patient** – Fix-It Clinics can get very busy and sometimes repairs can take longer than expected. Participation is first-come/first-served.

To learn more about attending an upcoming Ramsey County Fix-It Clinic, including information about volunteering, visit ramseyrecycles.com/fixitclinics.