

Maine District Lions Project Recycle

Eyeglass recycling is one of the Lions' most popular activities. Although the program was officially adopted by the association in 1994, Lions have been collecting glasses, for more than 80 years. And now Hearing Aids and Cell Phones. Refractive errors can be easily corrected with eyeglasses, yet millions in developing nations lack access to basic eye care services. Lions have recognized the urgent need for corrective lenses and continue to lend their support to the Lions Recycle for Sight Program.





Do You Know...

Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers throughout the world clean and store usable recycled eyeglasses.

Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers operate voluntarily with the support of public donations, individual member contributions, and Lions Clubs International Foundation grants.

Many Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers help minimize landfill waste by supporting precious metal reclamation and scrap processing. Broken glasses are discarded, providing "scrap to cash" income that can aid local community projects.

100% of public donations to Lions clubs are used for charitable causes – none go for administrative expenses.

Your Efforts Count!

Donate your used glasses, including sunglasses and reading glasses, to a Lions or Leos club collection point near you.



[Lions club worldwide recycling centers](#)

Why Recycle Glasses?

An estimated 120 million people* are visually impaired because of uncorrected refractive errors (far and near sightedness). Almost all cases can be corrected and normal vision can be restored with eyeglasses, contact lenses or refractive surgery.

The lack of eyeglasses denies children and adults opportunities for education, employment and a better quality of life.

The Journey of Recycled Glasses

1. Lions and Leos collect used eyeglasses at various community locations.
2. The glasses are shipped to the nearest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center where trained volunteers sort, clean and determine the prescription strengths of the glasses.
3. Volunteers at the recycling center carefully package the prepared glasses and store them until they are required for eyeglass-dispensing missions. Glasses that are not suitable for reuse are recycled for scrap, with the earnings benefitting local Lions and Leos projects.
4. At the mission site, eye care professionals and trained Lion and Leo volunteers perform vision screenings and dispense the appropriate recycled glasses, free of charge, to children and adults in need.

*World Health Organization Statistics

