

## **Freebies and Cheapies on the Web: Lodi Memorial Library Program (1/2013)**

Search “free stuff” on the Internet and you get millions of hits

### **TIPS**

- When shopping, always ask whether a special discount is available
- Carry Proof of Age ID for Senior/Student discount and discount cards
- Register for free Rewards programs at businesses where you regularly shop
- You will be asked to provide an email address
- Create a separate free email gmail for freebie requests
- Never give out credit card information in return for free samples
- Never give out your social security # or bank information
- Check seller ratings and contact info on website and online
- Check for a Secure Transaction notice (https in address box)
- Free samples are best secured through company websites
- Check Eligibility and Participation requirements for TOTAL COST

### **Free General Stuff on the Internet**

**The Free Site** <http://www.thefreesite.com/>

More than just free samples, this site offers everything from software freebies to seasonal freebies. Sends you directly to company websites

**All 4 Free** <http://yesall4free.com>

Easy to navigate website with various product categories. Freebies are rated so you know what’s worth sending away for and what isn’t. Email deals to friends

**File Hippo** <http://www.filehippo.com> Free open source software (Open Office, CCleaner)

Totally Free Stuff Search for freebies by date and product category

<http://www.totallyfreestuff.com>

## Local Freebies

Check "Free Stuff" section in local paper classifieds

**Craigslist** <http://www.craigslist.org>

Craigslist is the most popular free classifieds site on the Internet

Organized by city, state, and parts of state, you can check out what free

items people are giving away or what you can post for free. JSY is for New Jersey

**Freecycle** <http://www.freecycle.org>

Must join the Freecycle network and yahoo to have access to give and get freebies.

The local group is Bergen County which has 23,000+ members

Moderator is BergencountyFreecycleTM-owner@yahoogroups.com

## Good Coupon Sites

**RetailMeNot** <http://www.retailmenot.com>

One of the more popular websites to find online retail coupon codes. Offers a quick search feature.

Members can comment on coupon's validity

**CouponCabin** (<http://www.couponcabin.com>)

Updated often and provides newest verified coupons and deals

**Freeflys** <http://www.freeflys.com>

Reputable free samples and coupons site with RSS feed

**Coupons.com** <http://www.coupons.com>

Fun colorful site for printable coupons. Need to install a coupon printer, a free web download. Make sure to ask retailers if they take Internet coupons

**Smart Source** (<http://www.smartsource.com>)

Offers local sales and online deals. You can email coupons to friends. You

need to install free coupon printer and Java which prevents fraud

Coupon Mom (<http://www.couponmom.com>)

Need login to access coupons Lots of coupon resources and virtual coupon organizer

Sunday Saver <http://www.sundaysaver.com>

Links to major Sunday newspaper ads and weekly circulars

Spoofee <http://www.spoofee.com>

Tip sheet for coupons, store ads, and price comparisons

## **Deals and Steals**

Overstock (<http://www.overstock.com>)

Closeout deals 30-70% on name brands FLAT \$2.95 shipping

Woot <http://www.woot.com>

Woot sells one product per day at rock bottom prices. Also Shirt Woot and Wine Woot

Dealcatcher <http://www.dealcatcher.com>

Offers info on all Internet deals. Frequently updated. Allows members to print coupons (like an AMC coupon) or compare prices

Dealighted <http://www.dealighted.com>

Mashup of deals from major deal sites—FatWallet, Slickdeals and more

Comparison Shopping Sites

Best sites: shop by price, brand, type, give seller ratings and total cost

Price Grabber <http://www.pricegrabber.com>

Data feed to Ask, MSN, Sell Yours feature, Savings alerts

Shopzilla <http://www.shopzilla.com>

Often lowest prices, Truste Seller info

BizRate <http://www.bizrate.com>

Clear comparisons by stores

Shopping <http://www.shopping.com>

Owned by and includes eBay listings

## Save Money on Gas

Gas mileage tips from the Department of Energy

<http://www.fueleconomy.gov>

Best gas prices in NJ (by zipcode or town)

[http://www.motortrend.com/gas\\_prices/31/new\\_jersey/index.html](http://www.motortrend.com/gas_prices/31/new_jersey/index.html)

Entertainment Discounts

Groupon <http://www.groupon.com>

Daily deals on local businesses; earn pts by sharing coupons; customize deal feed

Restaurants.com <http://www.restaurants.com/>

\$25 dining certificates for \$10 and other deals

Living Social <http://www.livingsocial.com>

Daily deal customized for attractions, shops but need Facebook or email signup

## Miscellaneous Deals

Ecobunga <http://www.facebook.com/ecobunga>

Environmentally friendly giveaways and deals but must be a Facebook user

Consignment Shops <http://www.consignmentshops.com>

Find local consignment shops and buy great used items

Cook Cheap <http://allrecipes.com/HowTo/Cooking-on-a-Budget/Detail.aspx>

Budget friendly section of free All Recipes site

## Free Books

Lodi Library List of Free eBooks sites <http://lodi.bccls.org/ebook-resources.html>

Paperbackswap <http://www.paperbackswap.com>

Join PBS for free. List books, textbooks, audiobooks you are willing to mail. For

every item you mail to a member, you get a credit. Then use your credits to receive items from other members. Pay only for the postage to mail out your books

Project Gutenberg <http://www.gutenberg.org>

PG is the largest collection of free online books or eBooks. Compatible with many electronic devices. Only classics or titles in public domain are available

## **Frugal Living Blogs**

Bargain Briana <http://www.bargainbriana.com>

Posts or emails you current deals and steals daily

Frugal Living <http://www.frugalvillage.com>

Sara Noel has a syndicated Frugal Living column

Centsable Momma (<http://www.centsablemomma.com>)

A mom blogs about living frugally. Offers coupon finds and great deals