

## Sustainability

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## 2nd Annual Free Store!



August 23, 2019

**Students served: 445. Free Items given: 1,700+!**

UMD's second-annual Free Store opened its doors just in time for Move In Day, Thursday, August 22, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. The line began forming at 8am, with a very motivated student waiting patiently for the doors to open. This off-campus student, Grace, was looking for items to furnish her new apartment. By being first in line, she came away with a futon, side table, mirror, and storage unit. It pays to be first at the free store!

Inventory at the Free Store includes things like area rugs, microwaves, mirrors, storage units, dishes, school supplies, fans and more— all donated by students moving off campus at the end of the 2018-19 school year. Total inventory measured in over 4,000 items, but many smaller pieces were bundled together to create one single item to help students get more bang for their money, so to speak. There was also a "free-free" or "free

for all" area that wasn't being tracked by checkout staff so students could grab things like tupperware, textbooks, aluminum foil, and boxes of Kleenex.

The items were collected by Housing and Residence Life and the Office of Sustainability staff, who collaborate with the International Student Services office to offer international students the sneak peek opportunity to visit the store before the big one-day opening.

We estimate that we kept around 10 tons of material out of our local landfill this year and had twice as many items to offer students through the store.







## Tags

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(<https://www.d.umn.edu/sustainability/>)

### RELATED LINKS

Free Store website (<http://z.umn.edu/2019freestore>)

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