



Fabulous Freebies and Bargains for Savvy Consumers June 17, 2008

@Rockaway Township Library, Rockaway, NJ

(973-627-2344) <http://www.rtlibrary.org>

<http://www.rtlibrary.org/consumersavings.pdf>

2. Freebies galore @Rockaway Township Library

Free computer and internet access, free computer classes, free films, free programs, free social and educational group meetings, free friendly help!

Library website homepage <http://www.rtlibrary.org>

Library events calendar <http://www.localendar.com/public/rockaway>

3. Checkout books on discounts through MAIN catalog

Search "*discounts*" "*frugal*" "*bargain*" at <http://catalog.mainlib.org/>

Best single resource—Reader's Digest (2007) *Free Money Free Stuff*

Linda Bowman books *Stuff and Good Deals (for Pets, for Kids, for internet)*

Denise Fields books (*Baby Bargains, Bridal Bargains, Toddler Bargains*)

L&B Kalian (2006) *Best Free Things in America (Big Book of Free Things)*

S&A Economides (2007 edition) *America's Cheapest Family*

4. The Internet is an amazing resource for freebies and bargains

You don't have to own a computer: free computers at library

Do need free email account

Sign up for Google Gmail <http://www.google.com>

Comparison shop, print coupons, register for savings alert

5. Tips to avoid online shopping scams

Check seller ratings and contact info; confirm total costs,
Check for a Secure Transaction notice (https in address box)
Give credit card, email and address only –no Social Security #

6. Rewards and Store Cards

Get and use them where you shop often: supermarket, drugstore, department and specialty stores, airlines

Earn discounts (no coupon clipping), savings alerts, special savings days,
Earn cash back and other rewards

Examples: CVS, Staples Rewards, Macy's, Stop n Shop, Continental

7. Free Stuff Websites 1

NOTE—Check Eligibility and Participation requirements for TOTAL COST
Some sites just want your email address for advertising but FINE PRINT?

NEVER give out money upfront to get "free stuff"

-Shipping and Handling costs? -Answer Consumer Survey ?
-Have to buy or "review" other products over a time period?

Free Stuffer Hunter Popular site for free product samples and services
<http://www.freestuffhunter.com>

Most Freebies Daily updates on free stuff and deals
<http://www.mostfreebies.com>

Totally Free Stuff Search for freebies by date and product category
<http://www.totallyfreestuff.com>

8. More Free Stuff Websites

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

Walmart online Click "In stores now" then "Free Samples" will mail stuff
<http://www.walmart.com>

Freeflys Reputable free samples site with RSS feed
<http://www.freeflys.com>

9. Good Coupon Sites

Under 2% of \$315 billion in Grocery coupons is redeemed annually

Sunday Saver Links to major Sunday newspaper ads and weekly circulars
<http://www.sundaysaver.com/#3>

Spoofee Tip sheet for coupons, store ads, and price comparisons
<http://www.spoofee.com>

Coupon Mountain Sales for big retailers and specialty stores –No food
<http://www.couponmountain.com>

Coupon Mom Lots of coupon resources and virtual coupon organizer
Skip paying to print coupons on her site though
<http://www.couponmom.com>

10. Online Deal Sites

Highlights savings with promo codes CHECK EXPIRATION DATES

Deal Catcher Savings alerts, coupons to print and promo codes
<http://www.dealcatcher.com>

Overstock Closeout deals 30-70% on name brands FLAT \$2.95 shipping
<http://www.overstock.com>

Dealighted Mashup of deals from major deal sites—FatWallet, Slickdeals...
<http://www.dealighted.com>

Amazon

Price competitive on most products and free ship with \$25+
Check their Warehouse outlet and Deals of the Day
<http://www.amazon.com>

11. Comparison Shopping Sites

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

Price Grabber Data feed to Ask, Msn, Sell Yours feature, Savings alerts
<http://www.pricegrabber.com>

Shopzilla Often lowest prices, Truste Seller info
<http://www.shopzilla.com>

BizRate Clear comparisons by stores
<http://www.bizrate.com>

Shopping Owned by and includes eBay listings
<http://www.shopping.com>

12. Save Money on Gas

Gas mileage tips from the Department of Energy
<http://www.fueleconomy.gov>

Best gas prices in NJ (by zipcode)
http://www.motortrend.com/gas_prices/31/new_jersey/index.html

Hypermiling to boost mpg <http://epistolary.org/6337.html>

13. Free Recycled Bargains

Drive by curb check on day before your area Bulk Pickup Day

Check *Daily Record* "Free Stuff" section in the classifieds

Craig's List North Jersey (Click Free in For Sale section)
<http://newjersey.craigslist.org/>

Virtual Dumpster (Register free)
<http://www.vdumpsters.com>

FreecycleMorrisNJ (have to sign up in Yahoo groups)
<http://www.freecycle.org>

14. Airfare Discounts

Check for hidden fees (eg. \$25 or more processing fee)
Airline websites often give the best deals –Or Ticket consolidators

Internet Air Fares (800-874-7969)

<http://www.air-fare.com>

Cheap Tickets <http://www.cheaptickets.com>

AARP Passport (age 65+) 888-2291-1757 <http://www.aarp.org>

15. Entertainment Deals

Free NY TV show taping tickets (link to About article on topic)

http://gonyc.about.com/od/tvtapings/Tickets_for_TV_Show_Tapings.html

AMC Summer Camp \$1 guest, Wed 10 am, 6/26-8/6

<http://www.amctheaters.com/smc/movies.html>

Live NY theater and shows 20-70% off

<http://www.theatermania.com>

High 5: \$5/ticket to NY theater, dance, music for
Teens 13-18 with Student ID plus an adult

<http://www.highfivetix.org>

16. Dining Discounts

Valpak Print out coupons to local restaurants

<http://www.valpak.com>

Free birthday meal and restaurant coupons

<http://www.spoofee.com>

Restaurants Discount certificates \$10 for \$25 (8000 partners)

<http://www.restaurants.com>

17. Book Bargains

Amazon Bargain books 50-80% off (No free ship if marketplace seller)

<http://www.amazon.com>

P Daedalus Books (up to 90% off) Call 800-395-2665 for catalog
<http://www.salebooks.com>

Read classics online at Gutenberg or Bibliomania (chapters, analysis)
<http://www.bibliomania.com> <http://www.gutenberg.org>

Swap books and audiobooks-pay only for book postage
<http://www.paperbackswap.com>

18. Explore Free and Bargain Community Resources

Check newspaper listings for free concerts, lectures, sports
<http://www.dailyrecord.com> has online calendar of upcoming events

Rockaway Township website for recreation, health department...
<http://www.rockawaytownship.org>

Rockaway Township Community Directory for 2007
On "Links" page of RTLibrary website <http://www.rtlibrary.org>

19. Checklist of Savvy Consumer Saving Strategies

- ✓ Always ask whether a special discount is available
- ✓ Carry Proof of Age ID and discount cards
- ✓ Use free services @ Rockaway Township Library
- ✓ Use the internet to research deals
- ✓ Find out what discounts and freebies exist in Rockaway Township
- ✓ Claim your rewards and

20 . Share your favorite freebies and discounts!

Email us at rockawaytwplibrary@rtlibrary.org

This handout and the presentation are available free on the library website (Click Links on homepage, in Resource Guide section)

Handout for Savvy Consumers Presentation 6/08
<http://www.rtlibrary.org/consumersavingshandout608.pdf>

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