



NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 29, 2026

Subject: Before You Buy New, Try Repair: Free Fix-It Fair Helps Families Save Money While Reducing Waste

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Before you start back to school shopping, try fixing it first! Instead of replacing a torn backpack, a loose bicycle chain or a favorite pair of jeans, Springfield-area families are invited to give those items a second life during a free community Fix-It Fair on **Saturday, Aug. 8, from noon to 4 p.m.** at the **Midtown Carnegie Branch Library Maker Space**.

Hosted by **Community Partnership of the Ozarks (CPO)** in partnership with the **Springfield-Greene County Library District**, the Fix-It Fair brings together skilled volunteers who will repair household items, clothing, bicycles and small appliances—free of charge. For many families, repairing an item instead of replacing it can make a meaningful difference.

"Whether it's a backpack that needs a new zipper before school starts or a small appliance that quit working, every repaired item helps families save money while keeping useful materials out of the landfill," said **CPO Community Development Specialist, Angela Watkins**. "Just as importantly, the Fix-It Fair reminds us that neighbors helping neighbors is one of the strongest ways we build community."

These Fix-It Fairs are held quarterly and help local families avoid unnecessary replacement costs while reducing waste. The event welcomes fixable items such as:

- Clothing and textiles
- Small household appliances
- Mechanical household items
- Bicycles
- Other repairable household goods

Oversized items, gas-powered equipment and hazardous materials cannot be accepted. In addition to helping residents save money, the event also preserves practical repair skills by connecting experienced volunteers with community members eager to learn that many items don't have to be thrown away.

This is part of how CPO works to build resilient children, healthy families and strong neighborhoods by connecting residents, organizations and volunteers to create healthier, more resilient communities.

ABOUT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP OF THE OZARKS: *Community Partnership of the Ozarks (CPO) is a regional nonprofit organization dedicated to building resilient children, healthy families, and strong neighborhoods and communities. Through collaboration, innovative programming, strategic partnerships, and resource development, CPO brings people and organizations together to address the Ozarks' most pressing challenges and create lasting community impact. Learn more about CPO's programs, partnerships, and initiatives at www.cpozarks.org*

Event Details**Fix-It Fair**

Saturday, Aug. 8, 2026

Noon–4 p.m.

Midtown Carnegie Branch Library Maker Space

You can find more information on this Facebook event on CPO's page at

<https://www.facebook.com/CPOzarks> Residents interested in volunteering as a fixer or with questions can contact **Angela Watkins** at awatkins@cpozarks.org or at 417-888-2020 ext 128.

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