



FAQ

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE

WHAT IS THE RIVERTON ROTARY CLUB DOING? We are conducting a Boot & Shoe Drive that started July 1 and runs through Oct. 7. We are asking people in the community to donate gently used or new boots and shoes to this cause.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS? To raise funds for the club's various community service efforts, but in this case we are NOT asking people to open their wallets, but to open their closets.

WHAT KINDS OF BOOTS & SHOES DO WE WANT? All Kinds – youth, women's men's, casual, fancy, athletic, business, work shoes, snow boots, hiking, cowboy, ranch, mud/rain, work boots. All sizes. We're asking for gently used or new, re-usable, clean shoes with no holes in the soles, good insoles, generally clean with no mold.

WHAT DO WE DO WITH THE SHOES? After packing them in bags of 25 banded or tied pairs, we send them to Funds2Org, our partner in this effort. They send them to developing nations like Haiti, Botswana, Cambodia and others, where they are supplied to "microenterprises" – small businesses of 1 or 2 people, typically family members who sell the shoes in their country. They get to earn a living and recipients get good shoes at low prices.

HOW DO WE MAKE MONEY? After passing inspection, the shoes are weighed and we are paid \$.40 to \$.50 per pound for them. You can probably guess, boots weigh more than shoes, and we do a lot of boots in Wyoming. They generally weigh 3 times as much as a pair of shoes. Sometimes a lot more. So we want to encourage boot donations as much as regular shoes.

WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH THE MONEY? The Riverton Rotary does a lot of things in the community to make life better in Riverton. We encourage literacy with our dictionary program in Riverton Schools, We sponsor young students to attend youth leadership camps each summer. We've done a LOT of park improvement projects over the years like building the band shell in City Park, the dog park at the RiverWalk, Centennial Park in town, Short Park by the college, and the storytellers circle at RiverWalk – just

to name a few. These always need maintenance. Sometimes we sponsor international exchange students. We give scholarships to graduating seniors, and we do community clean up days. We also do a ton of smaller projects supporting other organizations with funding and volunteers, including the community Thanksgiving Dinner. The funds we raise help us continue to provide these benefits to the Riverton Community.

HOW WILL YOU COLLECT BOOTS & SHOES: We're using a number of methods – some simple, some creative. First, we have a bunch of drop locations around town where people can bring their bagged (preferably) shoes. We promote those locations through posters, social media, traditional media, etc. Additionally, we'll be at events with donation boxes. We also have various large groups like employers, churches, other service clubs, promoting to their membership and collecting internally. You may find your neighbors stopping by your house with a bag and asking if you will fill it with shoes that they can pick up later. We are doing all of this through four teams (The Crocs, The Sneakers, The Go-Gos and the MaryJanes). These are just a few of the ways we are working with the community to collect boots and shoes.

HOW MANY SHOES DO YOU NEED? At a minimum we need 91 bags of 25 good pairs of shoes, or 2,275 pairs, but our goal is 200 bags in order to raise about \$2,500. We are hoping each team will collect at least 50 bags and each individual member will contribute to the collection of at least four bags.

HOW CAN I HELP? Look in your own closet for boots and shoes you no longer wear that you're willing to donate. Ask your friends and family to do the same. Help with publicity (posting posters in windows, sending emails to friends, sharing social media posts) and donation locations (we update publicity regularly as new locations are added to the list). Ask your church or favorite club to help; we can provide a presentation to them if wanted. Help pick up collected shoes from donation boxes. Join in the Fun at our QC parties. And connect with your team leader, Marci or Cathy if you have any bright ideas to help us succeed.