

Salvage Yards – Environmentally Friendly Ways to Recycle and Profit

What Is a Salvage Yard?

Have a clunker in the driveway or electronics dating back to the days of Microsoft 4.0? There's an easy, and even profitable, way, of discarding those old-timers. Salvage yards in places like Montcalm, Michigan, and towns across the country, want what you don't. In fact, salvage yards pay you for junking your stuff—big and small-- made of metals like copper brass, bronze, and aluminum. Most salvage yards even handle big jobs like heavy steel from automobiles, construction sites, and home renovations.

What Do Salvage Yards Pay for Scrap Metal?

Metals are traded on commodity exchanges, so their value can fluctuate throughout the day. The exchanges post these prices and salvage yards should pay appropriately. What you earn, depends mainly on the type of metal. As a rule, ferrous metals such as steel and aluminum are worth less than non-ferrous metals such as copper, brass, bronze and stainless steel. To know whether the metal is ferrous or nonferrous, take the magnet test. If the magnet attracts the metal, it's ferrous; if the magnet doesn't attract the metal, it's nonferrous.

Know the Metals You're Offering to Salvage Yards

Understanding and being able to identify various metals is one way to ensure you receive a fair price.

Copper, red or brownish, is one of the most valued metals and can be found in plumbing pipes, roofing materials like gutters, inside air conditioners and electrical wires.

Brass, yellowish with some red tones and weighty, gets a mid-price and can be found in hardware like door handles, plumbing fixtures lighting fixtures and even keys.

Aluminum, silver and often bendable, is not highly valued, though cans, siding, door and window frames contain a considerable amount.

Steel is an incredibly common metal, and while it doesn't fetch a high price, there's plenty of it in cars, shelves, and cabinets.

Recycling Metals at Salvage Yards Helps the Environment

Recycling metals impacts the environment in positive ways. By recycling metals, salvage companies save all sorts of items—cars, machinery and building materials—from piling up in unsightly landfills. Additionally, recycling preserves the earth by decreasing the number of metals that need to be mined to meet commercial demands. Less mining also reduces the risk of environmental hazards and groundwater pollution.

How to Choose a Salvage Yard Company

Choose a salvage yard with experience and a solid reputation. Ask friends and family members for recommendations, and always check online reviews to confirm customer satisfaction. For convenience, select a salvage yard that makes pickups, so there's no hauling on your end. Whether you are hoping to save the earth or simply want to make some easy money, salvage yards are at your service.

Short Summary: Consider salvage yards to recycle everything from cars to building materials into metal scraps. Understand the profits and environmental benefits of metal scrapping.