

## Decluttering for Your Best Life

April 17, 2019

## Today's Speakers



Moderator
Victoria Good
Project Coordinator
WorkWell NYC



Presenter
Helene Abiola
Project XYZ Program Lead
WorkWell NYC



## WorkWell NYC

WorkWell NYC seeks to create workplaces that help our employees live healthy, active lifestyles, and to provide health and well-being services, programs, and resources at the worksite and beyond.











## About Us

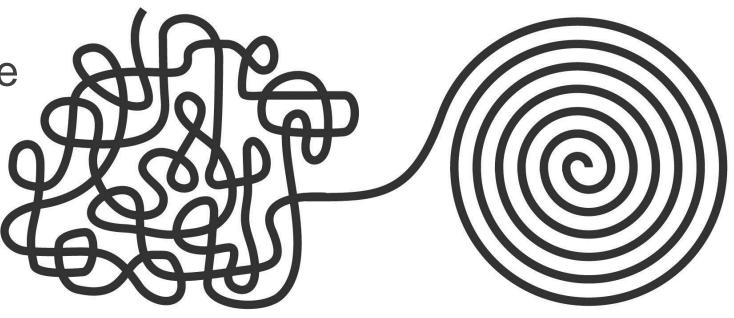


WorkWell NYC established Project XYZ to target the unique interest of the City's youngest employees: Generations Y and Z.

Project XYZ is a wellness community that encourages healthy, active lifestyles throughout our employees' public service careers.

## In this webinar you'll learn...

- What is clutter
- How clutter affects us
- How to declutter your home, workspace and life
- Practical resources and strategies to stay clutter free!





### Does Clutter Affect Your Life?

- Do you find yourself misplacing important documents?
- Do you find your self short on time or unable to prioritize the activities that are most meaningful to you?
- Are you often stressed by the thought of how many things you need to do in a day?
- Are you embarrassed to bring guests over because your home has stuff everywhere?





### What is clutter?

"Clutter is an overabundance of possessions that collectively create chaotic and disorderly living spaces." -Dr. Joseph Ferrari





## Benefits of Decluttering

- Clearing
- Savings
- Space
- Time
- Stress Reduction
- · It's Green!





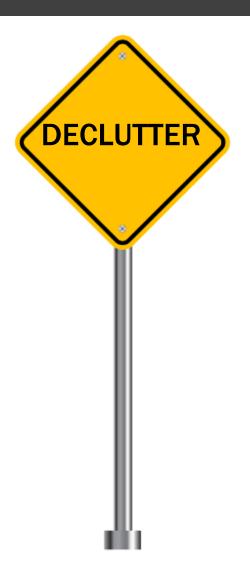
## Clutter and Mental Health

Research has shown that people who perceive their homes to be cluttered are more likely to be depressed





## If you were looking for a sign...





# Getting Started

## Three Primary Steps to Clear Clutter





# Decluttering at Home

## What Not To Do...



- 1. Attempt to do it all in one day
- Run out and buy storage containers before decluttering
- 3. Expect perfection
- 4. Throw everything in the trash
- Throw away things that don't belong to you



## Sort it Out!

Label 3
empty bins,
cardboard
boxes or
trash bags







**TRASH** 

**DONATE** 

**RECYCLE** 



## Things you might want to get rid of

- Items that are broken and beyond repair
- Things that are expired
- Clothes that are damaged or no longer fit
- Things you don't use





## Questions to Ask Yourself

## If you're on the fence regarding whether to keep something, ask yourself:

- When was the last time I used this?
- Would I buy this again today?
- Would I keep this if I were to move tomorrow?
- If it's broken or damaged is it worth fixing?
- Why do I have this?
- Do I need this?





Let's call any activities that deplete you "red time"

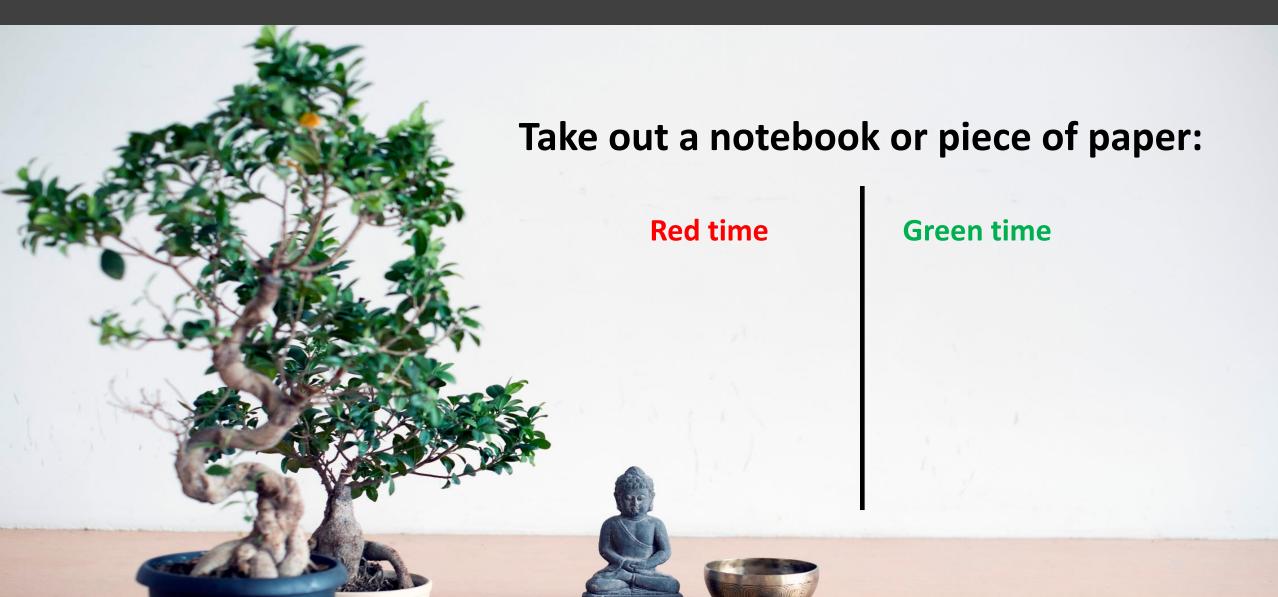
• Ex: commute, stressful job, chores

Let's call any activities that recharge you "green time"

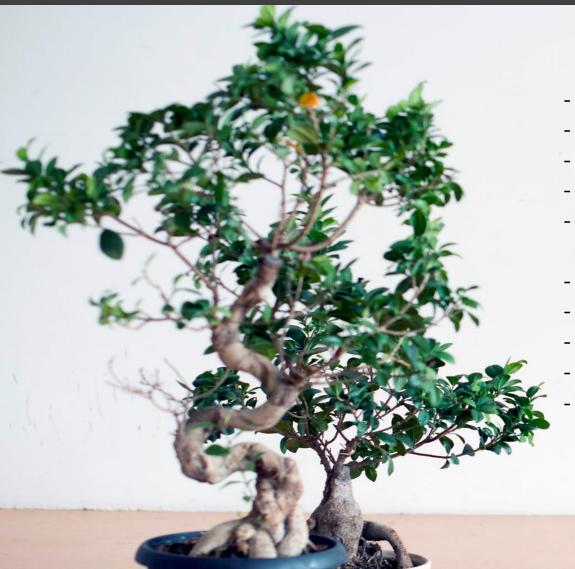
 Ex: working out, spending time with family or friends, reading







what my week really looks like



#### **Red time**

- Stressful Commute
- Job
- Laundry
- Cleaning the house
- Dropping kids off at school
- Paying bills
- Washing the dishes
- Preparing dinner
- Grocery shopping
- Packing lunch

#### **Green time**

- Sleep
- Walking
- Family dinner

what I wish my week could look like



#### **Red time**

- Stressful Commute
- Job
- Laundry
- Cleaning the house
- Dropping kids off at school
- Paying bills
- Washing the dishes
- Preparing dinner
- Grocery shopping
- Packing lunch

#### **Green time**

- Sleep
- Sports (Running, yoga, basketball, bike ride.)
- Art
- Meditation
- Taking a walk
- Long bath
- Reading a book
- Listening to music or podcasts
- Knitting
- Family dinner
- Hanging with friends
- A massage or pedicure

- Can I delegate any of my red time activities to someone else?
- Can I give up any of my red time activities?
- Can I add in any more green activities?
- Can I turn any of my red time into green time?





what my week looks like now



#### **Red time**

- Stressful Commute
- Washing the dishes
- Preparing dinner
- Laundry
- Paying bills
- Grocery shopping
- Job
- Cleaning the house
- Dropping kids off at school
- Packing lunch

#### **Green time**

- Reading an enjoyable book during commute
- Listening to music while doing the dishes
- Family dinner with a fun theme (taco night)
- 7-8 hours of sleep
- Taking an after dinner walk
- Being active during lunch break (bike ride, running, long walk or gym)
- Planning to connect with a friend via phone call or in person

# Decluttering at Work

## Decluttering at work

### Visioning

- Set aside a chunk of free time
- Think about your goal for your work space





## Decluttering at work

### Sorting

- Scan needed papers and save in folders on your computer
- Organize desktop files into folders
- Keep only one water bottle &/or coffee cup





## Decluttering at work

### Disposing

- Compost or throw away any expired food
- Toss dried out writing utensils
- Recycle any papers, calendars or newspapers that you don't need
- Delete digital files

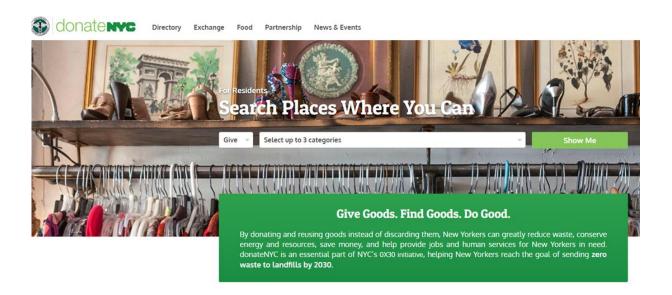




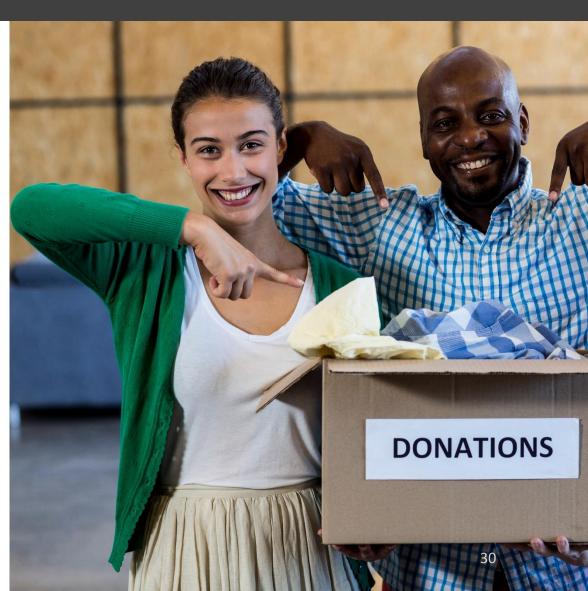
# Resources

## Donate what you don't need

#### Nyc.gov/donateNYC







# Repurposing



- T-shirts → cleaning rags
- Textiles → stuff pillows, bean bag chairs, ottoman
- Mason jar → toothbrush holder
- Paper towel stand → watch holder
- Rusty bike → flower planter
- Socks with holes → puppets

## Tips to Keep Clutter at Bay



#### At home

- Utilize the one in, one out rule
- Reverse hanger trick
- Have an "outbox" by the door

#### **Online**

- Sign up for paperless billing
- Electronic unsubscribe services
- Delete or archive emails after reading

#### On the go

- Bring your own reusable bag
- Go shopping with intention, not just because there is a sale

## Resources for more info

Donate NYC website <a href="https://www.nyc.gov/donatenyc">https://www.nyc.gov/donatenyc</a>

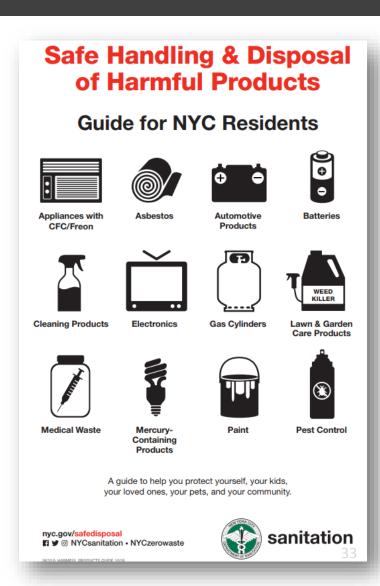
Harmful products disposal guide printable <a href="https://materials.bwprronline.org/system/tdf/harmful-products-brochure-06310-f.pdf">https://materials.bwprronline.org/system/tdf/harmful-products-brochure-06310-f.pdf</a>

NY Times Article on Clutter

https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/03/well/mind/clutter-stress-procrastination-psychology.html

Apartment Therapy – The January Cure (Great for any time of year) <a href="https://www.apartmenttherapy.com/collection/the-january-cure">https://www.apartmenttherapy.com/collection/the-january-cure</a>





# Questions?





# Tell us what you think!



bit.ly/declutternycsurvey



### Stay tuned for more Webinar Wednesdays

### Staying Calm Under Pressure.

May 8, 12:00- 1:00 PM



May 22, 12:30 -1:30 PM







### WorkWell In-Person Events



### National Employee Health & Fitness Day

May 15, 2019, 12:00 -2:00 PM



### **Project XYZ in the Mix**

June 14, 2019, 5:30 – 8:00 PM



#### MoveNYC 5k

June 20, 2019, 5:30-8:00 PM



## Contact us...



workwell@olr.nyc.gov | NYC.gov/workwellnyc