

WATERSTEP SHOE DRIVE FAQ



How do I get a shoe drive started at my school, church, or business?

1. Contact our Shoe Team at 502.751.7104
2. Set a Date for Your Shoe Drive
3. Get the Word Out

How long should I run my shoe drive for?

We recommend that your organization run your shoe drive for at least two weeks. Running the drive long enough that you include two weekends works well.

What kind of shoes can be donated?

We will take any and all types of shoes, regardless of their condition, as long as they are free from mold/mildew.

What do I do with the shoes once they are collected?

Pair the shoes up, and drop them off at one of our shoe drop sites around the Louisville/Southern Indiana area. Find the **nearest shoe drop site near you**. If you have a large amount of shoes, make several trips throughout the course of your shoe drive if you do not have a place to store the shoes. WaterStep has regularly picks up from our drop sites in Kentucky and Southern Indiana. It's better to take small quantities a few times than one huge load.

If you are outside of our pick up area, you can ship the shoes to our headquarters:

WaterStep
625 Myrtle St.
Louisville, KY 40208

Note: For shoe drives that produce an excess of 1000+ pairs, arrangements can be made for shoes to be picked up and brought to our headquarters. Contact our Shoe Department at **502-751-7104** to discuss logistics for pick-ups.

What does WaterStep do with the shoes?

WaterStep has an exporter that buys our shoes. Our exporter takes these shoes into some of the same developing countries that we do water purification projects and sells them to local vendors instead of giving them away. Because of this, we are contributing to micro-enterprise ventures that benefit the economy. This business model helps to provide funds for WaterStep, the exporter, and those small business owners in developing countries.

Why shoes?

Shoes serve another purpose besides providing WaterStep with funds for water purification. One pair of donated shoes serves multiple purposes:

- Building the economy of a local community
- Providing affordable footwear
- Keeping shoes out of landfills
- Initiating sustainable water projects

(Not to mention helping you maintain a clean closet!)

How do shoes provide funding? How does WaterStep use the funds raised?

60% of all funding of the WaterStep mission is by way of individual donations. Shoes creates approximately 15-20% of our revenue and the remaining 25% comes from grants and product sales. All funds received go toward funding our mission, of empowering ordinary people to provide safe, clean water.

We look forward to partnering with you!