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Does your clutter carpool?

Away with clutter



By Dana Korey

In California, most of us are very environmentally conscience, we separate our newspapers, glass and plastic from our trash, we don't litter the roadways or streets, we keep our beaches clean and safe, however why is it that we litter in our cars? Ours cars have become mobile offices for sales warriors, a dining facility for the too tired to cook, a locker room for gym rats and a toy chest in place of a play ground. Many people watch DVD's in their cars, eat their lunch in their cars, listen to music in their cars, groom themselves in their cars, groom their dogs in their cars, pay their bills in their cars, take naps in their cars, fool around in their cars (Oops! that's a Doctor Laura topic). All that said, our cars have become a mobile waste management facility.

How much time do you spend transporting your waste and clutter around town; why is it that we take it with us in the first place? Because we think we will need it some day, right? Wrong! We may think that, but the truth of the matter is that when we do want it, we can't find it in that heap of clutter we like to call a car.

How many times have you offered to give someone a ride only to realize that

there is no space left for humans in your vehicle. At that very moment your face turns an interesting shade of red...your heart rate increases and you are thinking about the time your mother told you to never leave the house without clean underwear....gosh forbid you get in an accident. Why didn't mom tell me about this jewel of information - how to organize one's car! First, the list of activities that takes place in your car has changed dramatically from your mother's day.

Lets face it, we all have busy lives and our car has become more than a mere form of transportation to many of us.

So how do we get our autos in tip-top organizing shape you ask....join us at the clutter junk yard gym. While there, you will find my partner Michaela Kuchenhoff...A.K.A The Clutter Terminator fast at work. Listen closely to what she has to say because "she won't be back!" She will be on her next super hero organizing adventure. Micha recommends the following things be kept in your car. First the glove compartment: have your insurance, registration and inspection info (make sure it's current) owners manual, emergency phone numbers, and cell phone charger.

For the pocket doors Micha suggests maps, flash light, tissue paper, wet wipes and garbage bags... "use the ash tray to keep spare change for meters or tolls."

"If your car is your primary office there are some amazing products on the market that can store all your supplies so your files won't fly around when you come to a screeching halt, they will even hold your lap top, cell phone, PDA and more! The cool thing about them is that you can connect your electronics into it and have them run off your car's battery," says Micha. To learn more about these mobile office products, check out www.awaywithclutter.com

Here are some quick fix tips if you travel with kids: 1) have a bag that hangs off the front passenger seat to hold snacks and water 2) have a bin on the floor for socks, shoes, gloves and hats to fall into 3) have a trash bag for every row of seats you have...fill it up...throw it out! 4). For the trunk use various size plastic containers to create emergency road supplies like: jumper cables, flare, large flashlight, antifreeze, oil, funnel, first aid kit, blanket, water, protein bars, ice scraper, gloves, rock salt, umbrella, spare coat. While you are at it, check to make sure that your spare is in good condition. It is important to remember to restock any items that have been used and to throw away anything that has been as well.

Remember the most important thing to have in your car are the people you love...not the waste they leave behind!

Visit www.awaywithclutter.com for more information.