

Navigation Team Storage Procedures

When are belongings stored

Storage of belongings occurs when the City does an encampment sweep.



Item Collection

Navigation Team Field Coordinators identify, collect, catalog, and create a log number for stored items. They are required to leave contact information, physically store items, and deliver items found in an encampment back to owners if owner can verify ownership.

Item Storage

During encampment removal, items are collected for storage. Belongings in one tent or structure would be recorded on one inventory log with an identifying number, description of the items stored, and the location where they were found. If storable items are left behind by owner and have not been identified by people camping as garbage, those items will also be removed and stored with notice posted at the site that the property was stored. The post includes the contact number for recovery/delivery.



Item Retrieval

City is supposed to make every effort to return personal belongings to the owner at the location where collection and storage took place. When individuals call with inquiries about their belongings, the Nav Team's administrative assistant notes details to assist with connecting the proper owner with their belongings. If no one attempts to recover the items within 70 days or if a request is not able to be properly verified (often), those items are discarded. Few items make it back to owners.



According to the city, only a small number of calls are made to reclaim items.



REFERENCES

Response, H. (2020, January 23). Homelessness response. Homelessness Response Blog. Retrieved December 10, 2021, from <https://homelessness.seattle.gov/navigation-team-storage/>.

