

## **LOPF STATEWIDE VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM**

The Lions of Pennsylvania Foundation has a vehicle donation program that lets supporters donate vehicles located anywhere in Pennsylvania. Donors can donate over the Internet by typing in **V-DAC** or by calling 877-999-8322. Just follow the various tabs, and when reaching the page for the organization, type in **Lions of Pennsylvania Foundation**.

This is an important fund raising tool that can actually give more in tax benefits than one can receive by trading in their vehicle. Vehicle donations are more than a way to get rid of an unwanted vehicle – *they have tax leverage. You get to value your vehicle at the retail price for tax purposes.* This means that instead of valuing the vehicle at what the dealer offers you in a trade-in, you value it at what he would sell it for in their showroom. You have to deduct the cost of bringing it to showroom condition but this is far less than the difference between retail and trade-in. Essentially, you capture the dealer margin for your tax deduction – without actually doing any work.

This tax leverage means that if you are a middle income individual filing PA taxes and are offered less than 25% of the retail value in trade-in, you will usually be better off donating (as long as you itemize deductions). If you are a high income individual, you may be better off donating even if you are offered 35% of the retail value in trade. There is a tax worksheet available at the website. Simply click on the vehicle donation icon and then on “Tax Information” in the left column.

Most people don't think of donating vehicles as a tax strategy but rather as a predicament solver. Next time you buy a car, look at whether you are better off donating rather than trading in. Your decision to donate instead of accepting a trade-in offer can result in a sizeable donation to the Lions of Pennsylvania Foundation.

You can help the Lions of Pennsylvania Foundation raise money by putting the following announcement in your local and district newsletters and other publications. Vehicle sales occur year-round so put it in every issue.

Be Smart!  
Don't Trade In!  
Donate Your Car  
To the  
**Lions of PA Foundation**  
[www.v-dac.com](http://www.v-dac.com)  
877-999-8322