



## Let the APS Team Help You Spring Forward!

Spring has finally arrived after a long, cold, wet winter. It's that time of the year to start thinking about spring cleaning, which means some serious decluttering, cleaning and organizing. The APS Team recently completed two cleaning and decluttering projects, similar in nature, but with different goals.



Our client Nan had a winter water leak which required a lot of repairs including flooring replacement. She had been staying with a daughter while all this was done. The APS Team moved her into this condo several years ago after downsizing from a much larger home .... two years later, we came back to declutter. Now, she needed us again. Nan has continued to collect items, papers, books, food, etc. The current situation gave us an opportunity to once again help her organize. We also worked with her family to suggest possible solutions for the future, such as caregivers coming a few times a week to keep things organized and clean.

Spring fever took over when we first looked at Nan's project, and we wanted to immediately set up her patio and add flowers to her pots as a welcome home gift. That is a natural reaction for us and our senior clients, because we have been cooped up inside all winter and want to *Spring Forward!* However, we first had to block out a schedule to organize each area and reset furniture and continue to clean out excess to make it more functional and safe. After we accomplished organizing the inside, then we tackled the patio.



Another client, Margaret, is planning to move this year. She and her husband want to be near their daughter and grandchildren (this is a familiar transition theme). Their real estate agent recommended our services to help the couple declutter the house and get it ready for sale. The project seemed overwhelming to Margaret. Our team helped her by creating a work schedule and planned events with specific goals. In addition, we also downsized their possessions, which has become a sideline to the overall packing and sorting. We cleaned out the home by separating items for donation, gifts to friends, and packing their grown children's possessions which were placed temporarily in a storage unit. In addition, we arranged favorite photos and treasures to showcase this lovely family home, and it has given the house a much needed rejuvenation. Donation boxes with labels have kick-started Margaret and motivated her into a *Spring Cleanout Fever!* We have several weeks left to complete the project, but we are definitely helping her get rid of lots of "stuff."

While a room-by-room approach is meant to take away the anxiety of tackling the project, sometimes you may find some things are beyond your *Spring* spruce-up goals. You may find some larger projects such as attics or garages are too labor intensive and you may want to consider hiring some extra help. Let the APS Team help you with organizing, decluttering and cleanouts. Nan and Margaret will tell you they couldn't have done it without us!

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Happy Spring!