

KUTV: Save Big on Government E-Auctio

Fresh Idea

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Save Big on Government E-Auctions

The Internet auction craze. It seems everyone is bidding online. Now the government is getting into the act putting all kinds of items up for bid.

In this Fresh Idea Lea Ann Lobb shows you all the e-goods up for grabs.

Karen Lenahan admits it she's hooked on internet auctions.

"I've bought about 200 items, maybe more. This is one of my better deals. It's a Longines men's watch, 14 karat gold," said Karen Lenahan, government e-auction bidder.

She paid just 60-dollars. But not on e-bay.

Karen is shopping on government e-auctions where police departments, cities and towns, even federal agencies, put items up for bid.

"There's a wide spectrum of items available for auction from the federal government," Casey Coleman, Firstgov.gov.

Casey Coleman is with firstgov.gov. The government's central auction site.

It features goods from the IRS, defense department, US Marshals Service and other agencies.

What's up for grabs?

Just about everything.

"Personal property, real estate, used automobiles, boats or recreational vehicles, time shares," Coleman said.

There are dozens of other e-auction sites that offer government goods.

"Steal-it-back.com" sells confiscated or unclaimed items from police departments across the country.

More TVs, more transformers, sporting goods equipment, radios, Walkmans, Play Station 2s, and some say this type of shopping is actually patriotic.

Auctions are a good deal for the taxpayer, because not only does it raise money that can be used in place of tax dollars, but also takes those items off our rolls so we no longer have to pay for the upkeep and maintenance on them.

"This 1906 doll. I paid \$10 for her and she's worth about \$1300. This is my Nieman Marcus jacket. It's \$279, still with the price tag attached. I paid \$40,"

That may be, but for Karen it's all about the bargain.

"I love it. Nobody can deny a good deal and it's a steal at times," said Lenahan.

Here are links to different government auction sites:

www.firstgov.gov

www.stealitback.com

www.government-auctions-guide.com

www.government-auctions.com

www.auctionspass.com

www.bid4assets.com

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