

E-Waste Program

Electronic Waste Recycling - A Responsible Way to Manage

The Future is Here...

Why an E-Waste Recycling Program?

The Information Age has created an electronics industry that is the fastest growing manufacturing industry in the world. With this growth comes rapid product obsolescence resulting in an ever growing waste stream consisting of electronic waste.

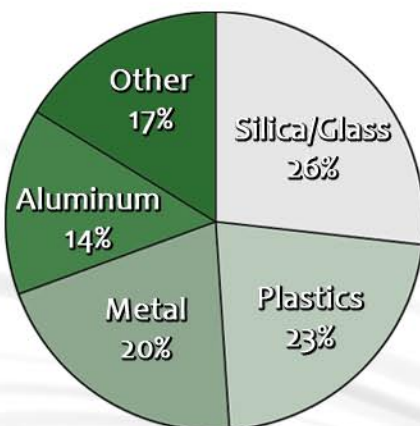
The Problem

E-waste is growing 4 times faster than other waste streams but only 12.5% of that waste is being recycled. The bulk of e-waste ends up is illegally disposed in municipal landfills that are not equipped to properly manage the toxic materials it contains. Over 500 million obsolete computers are estimated to be stockpiled in households and corporate warehouses in North America, growing each year by 20,000,000.

E-Waste in Ontario

Some municipalities have begun to collect materials on their own and have dealt with companies that took the materials away without any knowledge of its final destination opening a potential huge liability risk in the future. Many so-called recyclers simply export the e-waste to Asia where environmental and health and safety standards are low or non-existent resulting in the contamination of entire villages with this toxic waste.

Material Composition of Personal Computers



A major concern is that certain components of electronic products contain hazardous materials.

While circuit boards, batteries and switches may contain heavy metals, the significant component in the e-waste stream that typically is a hazardous waste is the cathode ray tube, the "picture tube" found in most TVs and computer monitors. CRTs contain significant quantities of lead, a metal that could be released to the environment when the CRTs are crushed.

Electronic components and materials are resources that can be re-used or recycled. In order to conserve natural resources and the energy needed to produce new electronic equipment from virgin resources, electronic equipment should be refurbished, reused and recycled whenever possible.



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**RECYCLEYOUR
ELECTRONICS**

Recycling your electronics just got easier.

The Ontario Electronic Stewardship program has set up a network of more than 500 collection points across the province where Ontarians can bring their used, broken or unwanted electronic equipment for responsible reuse and recycling.



The reason is a simple one - to do a better job of keeping waste electronic equipment out of landfill.

Where do I take them?

Bluewater Recycling Association is accepting all e-waste at its facility *free of charge!*

415 Canada Ave, Huron Park
Monday to Friday 7:30am-4:00pm
Phone: (519)228-6678

To find additional drop-off locations near you, go to recycleyourelectronics.ca



The E-Waste Program

The Recycling Process

Any components containing hazardous materials or other health and safety hazards are separated prior to processing. This usually entails the removal of batteries that could cause a fire, bulbs that may contain mercury or toxic gases, toners that make a mess and can be hazardous to human health, and the CRT tubes that are loaded with lead. All incoming electronic materials are then shredded and run through a series of sophisticated separation equipment and vibration screens producing distinct material streams. Dust collection systems collect fines and particulates for recycling, while the process incorporates proven recycling technology such as magnets and eddy currents configured to optimize the maximum recovery of recyclable components and precious metals.

What products can I bring?

- Amplifiers
- Audio and Video Players
- Cameras
- Cell Phones
- Computers and peripherals
- Copiers
- Digital Cameras
- Fax Machines
- Monitors
- Pagers and PDAs
- Printers
- Radios
- Receivers
- Scanners
- Speakers
- Telephones & Answering Machines
- Tuners
- Turntables
- Televisions
- Video Projectors

