LATENT HARM FROM IMPROPERLY
DISPOSED E-WASTE

Ed Mitchell May 2023



WHAT IS E-WASTE?

E-waste—or electronic waste—is a term used to describe electronic products (basically anything with a cable, cord, or battery) that have become unwanted, non-working or obsolete, or have reached the end of their useful life.

- computers and computer components (keyboard, mouse)
- printers
- monitors
- cell/smart phones
- tablets
- routers/modems

- microwave ovens
- televisions
- radios
- washers/dryers
- electronic toys

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN ELECTRONICS ARE NOT PROPERLY RECYCLED?

Improperly disposed e-waste:

- will often take thousands of years to properly decompose.
- will have a long-lasting negative effect on the environment.
- negatively impacts soil, air, groundwater, and marine ecosystems.
- leads to ongoing health risks.



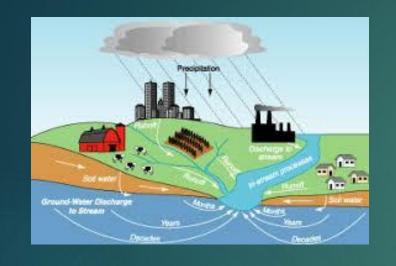
IMPACT ON THE SOIL

- As electronic devices break down, they release toxic chemicals into the soil which eventually contaminate trees and plants.
- Some of these toxic chemicals include lead from circuit boards and lithium from batteries.
- All of these toxic chemicals have the potential to make their way into our food through the soil.



IMPACT ON AIR

- Most of the e-waste not recycled properly will get sent off to incinerators in areas that do not have sanctions regarding electronic waste disposal.
- Burning e-waste is extremely harmful to the environment; their glass, metals, and plastic produce dangerous carcinogens when they are incinerated.
- As we continue to remove e-waste in this way, we will contribute to global warming by increasing the rate of ozone depletion.



IMPACT ON GROUNDWATER

- When lead, mercury, and cadmium slowly break down, they eventually flow into the groundwater.

- Groundwater flows into streams, lakes, and ponds—and eventually makes its way into local water.



IMPACT ON MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

- Electronic waste also goes into the ocean and this nonbiodegradable marine dumping can be deadly to organisms in the area and harm ecosystems.

- E-waste and the various toxins will continue to damage ecosystems and the process of recovery will become less feasible in the future.



IMPACT ON HEALTH

- WHO warns: soaring e-waste affects the health of millions of <u>children</u>.
- . smaller size, less developed organs make children more vulnerable.
- . children in some countries are engaged to sort e-waste because of their small hands.
- . many children live, go to school, and play near e-waste dumping grounds.
- . millions of women are exposed to toxic e-waste which puts them and their unborn children at risk.

SOBERING FACTS

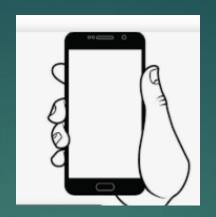
EPA estimates that in the US, only 15-20% of e-waste is properly recycled.

- The remaining 80% of e-waste accounts for 70% of toxic waste (DeVroom, 2020)
 - In other words, e-waste is one of the highest-concentration contributors to toxic waste!

And we can do better:

- Currently, Europe properly recycles 42% of e-waste.

Mobile Phones



There are more mobile phones in the world than people.

- In the US, more than 151 million phones are thrown away in a single year
 - For every million mobile phones that are recycled, we can recover 35,274 pounds of copper, 772 pounds of silver, 75 pounds of gold, and 33 pounds of palladium, according to EPA

Computers



It takes 500 pounds of fossil fuel, 50 pounds of chemicals, and 1.5 tons of water to manufacture one computer and monitor. according to the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

It's estimated that recycling one million laptops—rather than manufacturing new ones—saves the energy equivalent of electricity used by more than 3,500 US homes per year (us Geological Survey, 2016)

RECYCLE E-WASTE RESPONSIBLY

- Before buying a replacement, consider repairing it. Use your electronics as long as possible in order to reduce the amount of e-waste that you create.
- When it's time to recycle: look for Electronics Recyclers with the R2 or e-Stewards label on their websites. They are EPA-certified to meet the cleanest and most responsible standards for e-waste.





- Remove any batteries from your electronics, they may need to be recycled separately. Lithium-ion batteries and devices containing these batteries should NOT go in household garbage or recycling bins.

WHERE TO RECYCLE COMPUTER-RELATED ELECTRONICS

- Some convenient places that accept computer-related electronics for recycling are <u>WVC's Computer Club Technology</u> <u>Center</u>—Cathy Thorn will specify what kinds. Best Buy, Staples, and Goodwill are also possibilities to consider.
- The EPA website also has a list of places that accept different types of e-waste for recycling.

https://www.epa.gov/recycle/electronics-donation-and-recycling

LANCASTER COUNTY'S HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM

-Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority; Household Hazardous Waste Facility, 1299 Harrisburg Pike, https://www.twp.lancaster.pa.us/household-hazardous-wastes (717) 397-9968 [Note: residents only; no business/manufacturer]

- There is no charge for recycling the following E-waste products: photo cameras, video cameras, cell phones and smart phones, cell phone peripherals (chargers, batteries, Bluetooth earpiece, air cards, clips cases), DVD and VCR players, MP3 players and iPods, PDAs, portable electronic game players, video game consoles, stereos and stereo peripherals (CD players, turntables, amplifiers, and speakers). No wooden speakers. Limit of 10 total e-waste items per customer, per day.

In Summary . . .

Carelessly discarded Electronic Waste

- Has long-lasting negative effects on environment
- Leads to on-going health problems
- Creates a need to mine and process raw materials to manufacture new products

Mindful choices: repair, upgrade, or recycle



Thank You for recycling responsibly.

E-Waste and The Computer Club Technology Center







What is the Computer Club Technology Center



The CCTC provides technology services for Members of the Computer Club including but not limited to:

- 1. Hardware installation and problems
- 2. Firmware installation and problems
- 3. Software installation and problems
- 4. Instruction/troubleshooting on software, security, Internet, etc.
- 5. Provide parts and computers when possible
- 6. Refurbish (Rebuild), Apple, god-Pike first computers



The CCTC accepts certain electronic devices and parts for recycle from Club

Members

Recycling includes but is not limited to refurbishing older computers and upgrading them where possible to be reused – saving them from a landfill

For Residents
For Charity



In order to do this, we have 2 imaging machines

These machines totally wipe the hard drive of any PC of all information and install a new operating system. This is done for security.



These refurbished devices are then separated according to their performance to be given to Residents or to Charity

We use PassMark to



Who Can Receive Refurbished
Computers, Other Devices, or parts in
Inventory free of charge the who joins the

Willow Valley Computer Club by paying a one-time Membership



COMPUTER

CENTER



Charitie

S





Tenfold

TLC, a service of Tenfold, is a 52-room shelter that provides temporary housing and supportive services for individuals, couples, families, and veterans

Solanco Neighborhood Ministries

Meals for the weekend, holiday meals, Birthday Bags Community Garden, Food Bank Homelessness Assistance, Clothing Assistance, Gas cards, Samaritan Assistance Program, etc.

Charitie



A quality that includes the essential human virtues: Compassion and Humanity

Provides technology to students and entrepreneurs in Africa focusing on women and girls empowerment.

These tools allow recipients to achieve their dreams of success and self sufficiency.

At least 50% of the students in the 11+ centers must be women. Centers are in West Africa, East Africa, and South Africa

We provide refurbished Apple Computers loaded with Deepin, a Linux operating system

When possible the CCTC saves usable parts – Disc drives, Memory chips, routers, modems cables, connectors, adaptors,

Internal DVD Drives



Inventory Control is tricky
- What to keep, what to recycle, what is too old,

Once we determine what to recycle besides computers, we then have to decide where to take the recyclable items









In the Heart of
Lancaster at
702 Prince Street,
Fruitville Pike, Buck
(Quarryville address)
and north Lancaster







Full Circle Accepts the following:

Copper Steel Aluminum Copper Wire - WITHOUT THE CONNECTORS

Brass

Other Materials

Electric Motors Sealed Units (Compressors) **Ballast Computer Towers** Lead **Insulated Aluminum** Wire Turnings (of any kind)



Another Good Place to Recycle

What can be recycled in store

Tech

Adapters & cables

Battery backup devices

Cable/satellite receivers

Calculators

CD/DVD/Blu-ray discs & players

Coffee brewers (less than 40 lb.)

Computers

Computer speakers

Connected home devices

Digital and video cameras

Digital projectors

Fax machines

Flash drives

Gaming consoles and controllers

GPS devices

Hard drives

Headphones and earbuds

Keyboards & mice

Label makers

Tech (cont.)

Laminators

Laptops

MP3 players

Monitors (CRT, LED / LCD, plasma)

Phones

Printers & multifunction devices

Routers & modems

Scanners

Shredders

Small servers

Stereo receivers

Stylus pens

Tablets & eReaders

Video streaming devices

Webcams

Printer cartridges

Ink cartridges Toner cartridges

Batteries

Single-use alkaline NEW

Non-rechargeable lithium NEW

Rechargeable Nickel cadmium (Ni-Cd)

Lithium ion (Li-lon)

Small sealed lead acid (SSLA/Pb)

Nickel metal hydride (Ni-MH)

Nickel zinc (Ni-ZN)

Writing tools

Pens and markers NEW
Mechanical pencils NEW

Even more

Phone cases NEW

Tablet cases NEW

Shredding (cost per pound)

SodaStream® CO2 cylinders



Lancaster County Solid Waste Management





HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY

HOURS OF OPERATION

MONDAY-FRIDAY 7am - 4pm SATURDAY 7am - 11am

Acceptable Materials:

- Paint Pesticides
- · Pool Chemicals
- · Batteries
- · Household Cleaners
- · Computers
- Automotive Products · Fluorescent Bulbs

Mercury Containing Devices

ONLY MATERIALS FROM LANCASTER COUNTY HOUSEHOLDS WILL BE ACCEPTED. WASTE FROM ALL OTHER GENERATORS WILL BE REJECTED.

After hours drop-off of materials is strictly prohibited. All violators will be prosecuted.





ELECTRONIC WASTE

COVERED DEVICES:

Pennsylvania's Covered Device Recycling Act prohibits residents from disposing of covered devices as trash. Haulers are banned from collecting these materials. Covered devices must be recycled at an approved facility,

Covered devices include only the following items:

- √ Desktop computers
- √ Laptops
- / Monitors
- Computer peripherals, including a keyboard. mouse, printer and speakers
- √ Televisions
- √ Tablets and e-readers.

Covered devices will be accepted from Lancaster County residents for FREE at the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility, with the following restrictions:

√ Limit of 10 total covered devices per customer, per day (ex: 10 televisions, 10 computers and peripherals or any combination up to 10 total covered devices)

All electronics must be intact and will not be accepted otherwise!

OTHER ELECTRONIC WASTE (E-WASTE):

We also accept the following e-waste materials from Lancaster County residents for FREE at the HHW Facility, with a limit of 10 e-waste items per customer, per day:

- / Cameras: photo and video
- √ Cellphones, smartphones and peripherals: chargers, batteries, Bluetooth earpieces, air cards, clips, cases
- J DVD and VCR players
- MP3 players and iPods
- J PDAs
- √ Portable electronic game players and video game consoles
- Stereos and peripherals: CD players, turntables, amplifiers, speakers (no wooden materials)

LCSWMA reserves the right to inspect, delay or deny deliveries of covered devices and e-waste materials for any reason, at the discretion of our staff.

For a list of additional facilities that accept covered devices and other e-waste materials, visit earth911.com or contact your local municipal office.

We DO NOT accept electronic waste from businesses.

Visit www.kswma.org for facility operating hours and more information on recycling e-waste. No appointment is necessary.



We do our best to recycle any devices, parts, cables, etc. we can to save these from a landfill. The Computer Club is dedicated to being as good citizens as possible with regard to the environment.

One Last Note...



HP Small Form
Factor (SFF)
Desktop Computer

Replaces Large
 Old Desktops with
 smaller much more
 powerful Devices



Questions???

