

GET CREATIVE WITH YOUR E-WASTE!

Repurposing technology can be fun and rewarding! Need a writing utensil holder or a flashy piece of jewelry for a birthday gift? Look no further than the outdated and amazing savings of technology that you already have!



While 40% of E-waste is recycled, 60% still resides in landfills all over the world, leaking toxic chemicals into water and food sources.

LIFE CYCLE:



TAKE BACK PROGRAMS

Contact these companies for your electronic recycling options!



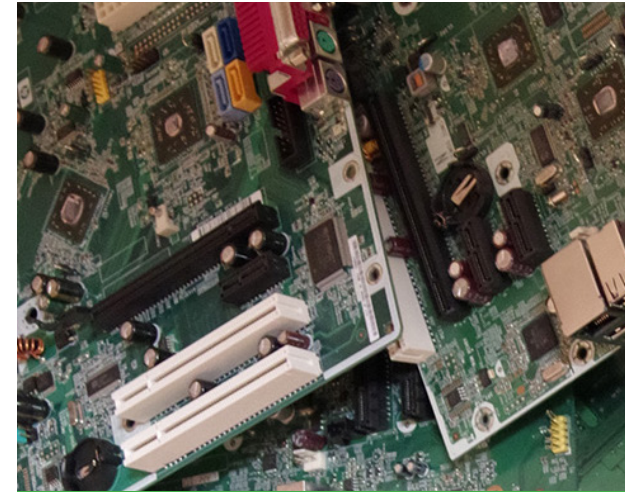
DONATE USABLE ITEMS:

- National Cristina Foundation www.cristina.org
- World Computer Exchange www.worldcomputerexchange.org
- Interconnection <https://interconnection.org>
- Creative Code 4 Kids <https://creativecoding.com/>
- Bronx Clergy Criminal Justice Roundtable www.bccjr.org
- Housing Families <https://housingfamilies.org/>
- Reconnect <https://www.dellreconnect.com/>

Consider selling your items on Craigslist, Ebay, or another online marketplace.

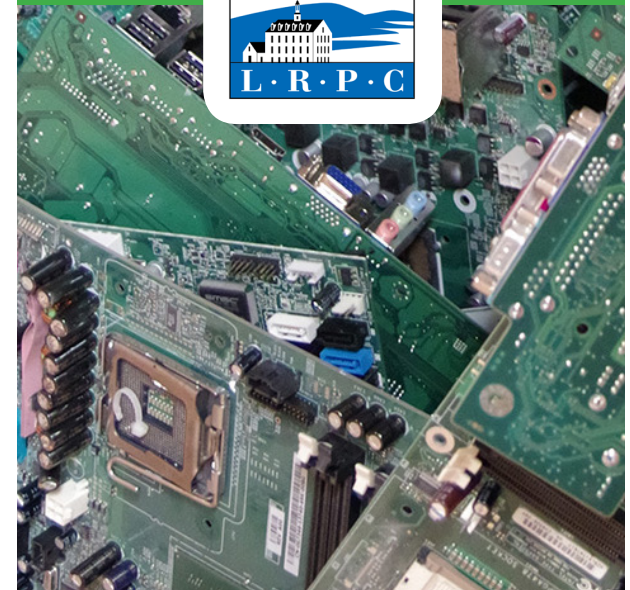
Please reach out to LRPC if you would like to learn more!

Lakes Region Planning Commission
603-279-5334
www.lakesrpc.org



ELECTRONIC WASTE

What is E-Waste?
&
How do I dispose of it?



WHAT IS E-WASTE?

E-waste is a generic term embracing various forms of electronics and electronic equipment that is loosely discarded, surplus, obsolete or broken. The most popular types are televisions, copy and fax machines, computers VCRs and abundant is cellphones.

Approximately 300 to 400 tons of E-waste is generated in the Lakes Region each year. (NHDES)

THE RECYCLING PROCESS

When done responsibly, the E-waste Recycling Process includes the following steps:

1. Items are sorted manually
2. Products are disassembled and sorted into categories (glass, plastic and metal, etc.)
3. Dismantled parts less than 2 inches in diameter are shredded
4. Longer parts are then broken down further in an automated shaking process. Any dust at this stage should be discarded in an environmentally friendly way
5. Magnetic materials are removed
6. Metallic and non-metallic materials are separated
7. Glass and plastic are separated



ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

- Over **60 chemical** elements can be found in various electronics such as lead, mercury, arsenic, cadmium and chromium.
- E-waste is often transported to countries with minimal regulations on recycling standards, resulting in improper shredding, dismantling, and burning of E-waste.
- Improper disposal releases small particles of dangerous toxins. The particles enter the body's respiratory system, which leading to inflammation, heart disease, neurological damage, and different cancers.
- Pollutants from E-waste can infiltrate the soil and our water. Humans and other animals then drink the contaminated water and eat crops grown in the affected soil causing negative health and environmental impacts.



In 2018, 1.56 billion cell phones were sold worldwide and 60% (936 million cellphones) were thrown away and not recycled.

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMER PRACTICES

Step 1: Smart Purchases

- Buy products that are registered with the EPA's Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) which meet the standards on lower environmental impact throughout the product's life cycle.
- Buy Energy Star
- Purchase products with longevity
- Purchase products from businesses with Take Back Programs
- Purchase refurbished products



Step 2: Take Care of Products

- Research your product's needs & keep it clean!
- Read the manual
- Plug power cords into surge protector to Protect from power surges
- Consider purchasing a smart plug
- Protect from getting damaged
- If broken, repair if it is affordable

Step 3: Donate it

Step 4: Recycle it

- Send in your old electronic(s) to take back program for **FREE**, especially if you bought it from them.
- When recycling, make sure the vendor is certified with the R2 standards or e-stewards certification to ensure it is recycled in a responsible manner.

