

## Reusing Electronics

Preventing waste in the first place is preferable to any waste management option... including recycling. Donating used (but still operating) electronics for reuse extends the lives of valuable products and keeps them out of the waste stream for a longer period of time. Reuse, in addition to being an environmentally preferable alternative, also benefits society. By donating your used electronics, you allow schools, nonprofit organizations, and lower-income families to obtain equipment that they otherwise could not afford.

Before donating your computer or other electronics, make sure the equipment is reusable. Check to see what the donation organization's minimum computer requirements are. Also delete your personal information from your hard drive.

Businesses might be able to take advantage of tax incentives for computer equipment donations. The 21st Century Classrooms Act encourages large companies to donate computer equipment to public and private schools.

### Where can I donate or recycle my old computer and other electronic products?

Listed in this brochure are local reuse and recycle drop-off locations for electronics.

Asset management and recovery programs have been available to major corporations and large purchasers of electronic equipment for quite some time. Now, electronics manufacturers are beginning to offer similar services for households and small businesses.

The **EPA's Plug-In To eCycling** partners may be national or regional in scope and may:

- Offer takeback, mail-in, or trade-in programs;
- Support local organizations that collect equipment;
- Host collection events at retail locations; or
- Support local recycling events with cities and municipalities

### Website:

[www.epa.gov/osw/partnerships/plugin/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/osw/partnerships/plugin/index.htm)

## Recycling Electronics

If donation for reuse or repair is not a viable option, households and businesses can send their used electronics for recycling. Recycling electronics helps reduce pollution that would be generated while manufacturing a new product and the need to extract valuable and limited virgin resources. It also reduces the energy used in new product manufacturing.



### Statistics on the Management of Used and End-of-Life Electronics

Consumer electronics including TV's and other video equipment, computers, assorted peripherals, audio equipment, and phones make up almost 2% of the municipal solid waste stream, as tracked in the EPA's **Municipal Solid Waste Characterization Report**. Although electronics comprise a small percentage of the total municipal solid waste stream, the quantity of electronic waste that we are generating is steadily increasing. The EPA reports that in 2005, used or unwanted electronics amounted to approximately 1.9 to 2.2 million tons. Of that, about 1.5 to 1.8 million tons were primarily disposed in landfills and only 345,000 to 374,000 tons were recycled.

### Electronic Recycling Questions?

Many general electronic recycling questions for individuals and businesses are answered here: [www.epa.gov/osw/conservematerials/ecycling/faq.htm](http://www.epa.gov/osw/conservematerials/ecycling/faq.htm)

## Buying Green

Environmentally responsible electronics use involves not only proper end-of-life disposition of obsolete equipment, but also purchasing new equipment that has been designed with environmentally preferable attributes. Households, companies, and governmental organizations can encourage electronics manufacturers to design greener electronics by purchasing computers and other electronics with environmentally preferable attributes.

### Look for electronics that:

- Contain fewer toxic constituents.
- Use recycled materials in the new product.
- Are energy efficient (e.g., showing the Energy Star label).
- Are designed for easy upgrading or disassembly.
- Use minimal packaging.
- Offer leasing or take-back options.
- Meet performance criteria showing they are environmentally preferable.

**Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT)** is a procurement tool to help institutional purchasers in the public and private sectors evaluate, compare and select desktop computers, notebooks and monitors based on their environmental attributes.

Visit [www.epeat.net](http://www.epeat.net) for more information.

## Reuse/Recycle Drop Off

### Asset Lifecycle

Topeka, KS • (785)272-8288 [www.assetlc.com](http://www.assetlc.com)  
Accepts computers & other electronics. Fee applies to monitors & TVs. Also handles commercial quantities.

### Best Buy

2020 W. 31st St • 843-0657 [www.bestbuy.com](http://www.bestbuy.com)  
Currently accepts tube TVs 32" & smaller and flat panel TVs 60" & smaller.

### Doctor Dave

Lawrence, KS • 218-9676 [www.calldredave.com](http://www.calldredave.com)  
On-site scheduled computer pickup.

### Extreme Recycling

Topeka, KS • (785)267-1700 [www.extremerecyclinginc.com](http://www.extremerecyclinginc.com)  
Accepts computers & other electronics. Fee applies to monitors & TVs. Also handles commercial quantities.

### Forerunner Recycling

KC, MO • (877) 478-6611 [www.forerunnerrecycling.com](http://www.forerunnerrecycling.com)  
Accepts computers & other electronics. Handles commercial quantities. Fee applies to monitors & TVs.

### Goodwill

2200 W. 31st St. • 331-3908 [www.mokangoodwill.org](http://www.mokangoodwill.org)  
Accepts computers and other electronics at no cost.

### Office Depot

2525 Iowa St • 841-6688 [www.officedepot.com](http://www.officedepot.com)  
Accepts most electronics. Three different sized recycling boxes can be purchased for electronics. Prices vary on the boxes.

### The Surplus Exchange

KC, MO • (816) 472-0444 [www.surplusexchange.org](http://www.surplusexchange.org)  
Accepts computers & other electronics. Fee applies to monitors & TVs. Also handles commercial quantities.

### UNI Computers in Lawrence

1403 W. 23rd St. (by Party America) • 841-4611  
[www.unicomputers.com](http://www.unicomputers.com)  
Accepts computers & other electronics. Call to inquire about fees. Also handles commercial quantities.

### Lawrence Materials Exchange

Click on "Swapmeet" at: [www.larryville.com](http://www.larryville.com)  
Lawrence Freecycle Network: [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org)

## Other Electronics

### Audio Media and Equipment

Donate or sell audio media and equipment to the following collection sites. Call for more details.

**Audio Reader** • 864-4600 or 800-772-8898

**CD Tradepost** • 856-8770

**Half Price Books** • 856-4253

**Hastings** • 832-0719

**Kief's Downtown Music** • 843-9111

**Love Garden Sounds** • 843-1551

### Cell Phones

May be dropped off at the following collection sites:

**AT&T, Best Buy, RadioShack, Simply Wireless (T-Mobile), Verizon Wireless, Walgreens (6th St.)**

Or donate your phone and battery charger to:

**Audio Reader** • 864-4600 or 800-772-8898

**Douglas County Senior Services** • 842-0543

**Women's Transitional Care Services** • 843-3333

### Printer Cartridges (inkjet and toner)

May be dropped off at the following collection sites:

**Best Buy** • 2020 W 31st St., 843-0657

**Cartridge World** • 2540 Iowa St., 856-6465

**Kaw Valley Office Products** • 856-9500

**Laser Logic** • 450 N. Iowa St. #A3, 865-0505

**Walgreens** • 3421 W 6th St. 841-9000, 400 W 23rd St. 832-8388

**Wal-Mart** • 3300 Iowa St., 832-8600 (inkjet only)

### Rechargeable Batteries

Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd), Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH), Lithium Ion (Li-ion) and Small Sealed Lead (Pb) batteries may be dropped off at the following collection sites:

**AT&T, Best Buy, iCafe, Home Depot, Lawrence Battery Company, Office Depot, RadioShack, Sears, Simply Wireless (T-Mobile), Verizon Wireless, Walgreens (6th St.), Wal-Mart at 3300 Iowa St**

# Electronics Recycling Guide



City of Lawrence

PUBLIC WORKS

WASTE REDUCTION & RECYCLING

More information at:  
[www.LawrenceRecycles.org](http://www.LawrenceRecycles.org)

Find us at:  
[www.facebook.com/LawrenceRecycles](http://www.facebook.com/LawrenceRecycles)

Lawrence has a lot to offer.  
Let's keep it that way!

[www.LawrenceRecycles.org](http://www.LawrenceRecycles.org)

Revised 3/11  
Printed on 30% post consumer waste paper.