What should I do with my old computer and electronic equipment?



The Ever-Growing Problem of E-Waste......

It is estimated that in 2007, over 500 million personal computers in the United States will become obsolete - that's over 25 billion pounds of electronic equipment! Local, state and federal regulations prohibit businesses from disposing of computer monitors and televisions in our landfills to prevent the lead embedded in the monitor glass from entering the drinking water supply.

In addition to the 4 to 6 pounds of lead in each monitor, other computer system components have hazardous materials such as mercury, arsenic, and cadmium, which can cause numerous health problems. Lead exposure can damage the central and peripheral nervous systems, circulatory system, and kidneys, and has been shown to increase learning disabilities in children. Exposure to mercury can permanently damage or fatally injure the brain and kidneys. Arsenic and cadmium are known human carcinogens as they increase the risks of lung, lymphatic, and prostate cancer.

In order to help safeguard our environment, it is necessary to properly dispose of your old electronic equipment. Listed below are the three most common methods of electronics disposal. On the reverse side of this flyer is a list of local service providers who are ready and willing to accept your equipment. Please remove all confidential information prior to donation, refurbishing, and/or recycling.

Reuse

Find interested parties to give equipment suitable for reuse. Giving the material to employees or friends serves at least two purposes: finding new uses for functional equipment and keeping the material out of the landfill.

In addition to friends, families, and employees, certain organizations in Lincoln may be willing to receive your equipment if it is a **Pentium 3** or higher in working condition. Check with the organizations for specific requirements.

Refurbish

Refurbishing is an excellent method to give new life to your obsolete equipment that is not new enough to be donated. Professionals will test the old equipment for possible rebuilding into new computers from existing parts.

When equipment is sent to be refurbished, it is not necessary to provide the entire system, nor is it required that all pieces be functional. Refurbishing allows old non-working equipment to be combined in new, fully functional systems.

Recycle

Computers and electronic equipment sent for recycling are dismantled mostly by hand and scrapped for their various components.

Circuitry, metals, plastics, and glass are sorted for recycling. The components are then sold and can be rebuilt into similar electronics, such as old to new CRT glass and circuit boards. Plastic components are oftentimes made into asphalt, plastic lumber, and electrical switch boxes. Glass can be reused as decorative tile, fiberglass, and highway reflective products.

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<u>Questions? Contact WasteCap:</u> 285 S. 68th St. Place, Ste. 540 Lincoln, NE 68510

www.wastecapne.org phone: (402)436-2383 or 888-EWASTE9 Your Business Recycling Resource



Local Service Providers

Computers & Electronic Equipment



Contact these businesses in order to properly dispose of your computers and electronic equipment. Please call to make arrangements **BEFORE** making a donation or delivering your material for recycling as minimum specifications or recycling fees may apply. Whether donating, refurbishing, or recycling, please remove all confidential information using "wipe-drive" software or reformatting the hard drive with a boot disk.

Donation & Reuse

It will be necessary to contact these organizations **BEFORE** making a donation in order to ensure that your computer equipment meets minimum specifications for donation. Only working equipment with a Pentium 3 processor or higher will be accepted.

Computers for Africa Omaha, NE 68134 www.computers4africa.org/ participate/inkind.htm

Cox Connects Kids 11505 West Dodge St. Omaha, NE 68154 (402) 934-0453

Lincoln, NE 68510 (402) 458-3140 www.cox.com/omaha/ www.lps.org

Lincoln Public Schools

5901 "0" St.

AT4AII 1910 Meridian Cozad, NE 69130 (800) 652-0033 www.at4all.com

Refurbishing & Recycling

It is not necessary to donate fully functional equipment when refurbishing. Periphery equipment (i.e. CPUs, speakers, keyboards, mice, etc.) will be taken for free, however, there may be up to a \$20 charge for monitors. Please call to make arrangements **BEFORE** delivering your material for refurbishing and/or recycling.

Computer Renaissance Ste.-B 330 N. 48th St. Lincoln, NE 68504 (402) 465-4040 www.compren.com

Lincoln Action Program 210 "0" St. Lincoln, NE 68508 (402) 471-4528 www.lincoln-action.org

Superior Pawnee Computer Society 752 N Central Superior, NE 68978 (402) 879-1046 www.spcsne.org

Recycling

If you are planning to recycle several systems, recycling service providers may be the best option. Charges for recycling will apply. Most commonly, recycling costs between \$0.30 - \$0.40 per pound for a complete system (including monitor). Please call to make arrangements BEFORE delivering your material for recycling.

Computer Hardware, Inc.

Kearney, NE (308)234-9335 Grand Island, NE (308)384-6939 Hastings, NE (402)463-3456 www.computerhardwareinc.com

Electronic Recyclers Omaha, NE 68110 (402) 658-9682

Retrofit Recycling St. Paul, MN (800) 274-1309 www.retrofitcompanies.com **CP Recovery**

7534 "F" St. Omaha, NE 68127 (402) 331-1630 www.cprecovery.com

i-recycle

5915 S. 118th Circle, Suite 1 Omaha, NE 68137 (402) 697-8400 www.i-manage.com

Schrock Innovations 7160 S. 29th St., Suite C2 Lincoln, NE 68516 (402) 423-9595 www.schrockinnovations.com **Electronic Disposal Technologies**

4815 South 115th St. Omaha, NE 68137 (402) 733-7297

www.electronicdisposal.net

Recycling Connections 4351 Hamilton St. Omaha, NE 68131 (402) 551-0823

www.recyclingconnections.com

Techware Recycling 1835 W. 0 St. Lincoln, NE 68528 (402) 499-3103