

To: Town of Metomen Residents

From: Your Recycling Committee

Wisconsin's 2009 electronics recycling law bans most electronics from landfills and incinerators and requires all local governments that are responsible units (RUs) to inform their residents about the electronics disposal ban, the importance of recycling and local recycling opportunities.

The law does not require RUs to collect electronics, but at least to educate residents about the importance of recycling banned electronics and why, how and where to accomplish that. Enclosed are two publications, provided to us free of charge from the state, explaining the importance of proper disposal, various options within the area to do that, and things to consider when choosing proper disposal. The DNR has also provided a very informative CD showing an e-cycle operation, what is involved in and required of both a collection facility for e-waste and for one for universal waste such as items containing mercury, lead, florescent bulbs and tubes, used oil and anti-freeze. Some of the storage and handling methods could be helpful for anyone having any of these at home until a facility that collects them can be accessed. It could be presented at a monthly town board meeting if there is enough interest.

On the back of this letter is the listing of business from Fond du lac and Dodge County that accept e-waste, as found on the website listed on the publications. Any questions you have can be answered by calling one of them. In the past Ripon Community Printers have sponsored an e-cycle collection event in September, however, at this time there is none scheduled for 2015. We are not aware of any such events being held in our area so any disposal will have to be on an individual basis.

We have also checked with the county extension office for any hazardous waste disposal for 2015 and found it has been canceled with nothing scheduled so far for 2016. Budget cuts are having a real impact on local environmental services.

If you have any questions regarding recycling, please contact one of us, we are here to help you. There are many resources out there if you have the access to the websites. If you don't have a computer we can help you find the answers.

Town of Metomen Recycling Committee

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## What Is E-Cycle Wisconsin?

Wisconsin's electronics recycling law establishes a statewide recycling program administered by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The program, called E-Cycle Wisconsin, puts in place a system to collect and recycle discarded electronics from Wisconsin households, K-12 public schools and Milwaukee Parental Choice Program schools.

E-Cycle Wisconsin uses a product stewardship approach, which means that manufacturers of certain electronics are responsible for financing and ensuring the recycling of these and other electronics within the state. Many consumer electronics, including TVs, printers, computers, computer monitors and VCRs, are covered under E-Cycle Wisconsin. For a full list of accepted devices, see [dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin](http://dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin).

E-Cycle Wisconsin has special requirements for collectors and recyclers to ensure that electronics are handled and recycled in an environmentally responsible manner. The DNR maintains lists of registered collectors and recyclers to help you find convenient recycling options. Community recycling programs and retailers can also provide information on how to recycle electronics covered under E-Cycle Wisconsin.

# E-CYCLE WISCONSIN



[dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin](http://dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin)



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Bureau of Waste and Materials Management

P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707 • (608) 266-2111  
[DNRWasteMaterials@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DNRWasteMaterials@wisconsin.gov)

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[dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin](http://dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin)



## What Can I Recycle?

Wisconsin households, K-12 public schools and Milwaukee Parental Choice Program schools can recycle the following electronics under E-Cycle Wisconsin:

- Computers (desktop and laptop, including netbooks and tablet computers)
- Desktop printers (including those that scan, fax and/or copy)
- Computer monitors
- Televisions
- DVD players, VCRs and DVRs
- Fax machines
- Mice and keyboards
- Other computer accessories including hard drives, speakers, flash drives and modems

These items, along with cell phones, are banned from Wisconsin landfills and incinerators as of September 1, 2010.

To recycle electronics not included in the list above, talk with your electronics recycler or call your local recycling program to see if there are other options in your area.



## Why E-Cycle?

- Electronics are the fastest-growing part of our waste stream today. Millions of TVs, computers and other household electronics become obsolete each year.
- Many electronics contain valuable, reusable materials like gold, steel, silver, copper and glass. Recycling old devices reduces the need for new materials and cuts down on greenhouse gas emissions associated with manufacturing.
- Recycling electronics protects human and environmental health. Electronics that are landfilled, incinerated or illegally dumped can release toxic materials like mercury, lead and cadmium into the air, water and soil. Recycling electronics helps ensure that these materials are reused safely or disposed of properly.
- E-cycling is an important part of product stewardship. By recycling our old electronics, we share responsibility for the products we buy and use from the beginning to the end of their useful lives.

## Where Can I Recycle My Electronics?

Households, public schools and Milwaukee Parental Choice Program schools may recycle electronics at locations across the state. For a full list of collection sites, see:

[dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin](http://dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin)

Some collectors may charge fees and may not accept all devices. Contact collectors beforehand to learn about their policies.

## What Happens to My Electronics?

Electronics recyclers registered with E-Cycle Wisconsin must comply with state and federal disposal regulations that ensure environmental safety. Recyclers will break down your electronics, reuse or recycle safe materials, and properly manage hazardous chemicals or wastes.

## What About Data Security?

Before recycling your computer, it is important that you remove all personal or confidential information. Many retailers offer this service for a small fee, or you can do it yourself. Before choosing a collector or recycler, ask them how they handle data security. Some may not accept hard drives.

[dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin](http://dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin)

# Wisconsinites recycle millions of pounds of electronics through E-Cycle Wisconsin



Join in by recycling or donating your old or unwanted electronics.

## Why is it important to recycle electronics?

Electronics contain valuable, reusable materials like gold, steel, silver, copper and glass. They also contain harmful materials like lead, mercury, cadmium and chemical flame retardants. Recycling and reusing electronics protects the environment, conserves valuable raw materials and preserves landfill space.

## What happens when I recycle my electronics?

Electronics recyclers break down your electronics, reuse or recycle safe materials and properly manage hazardous materials. Recyclers must comply with state and federal regulations to ensure environmental safety.

## Where can I e-cycle?

Some collectors accept electronics for free, while others charge a small fee for certain items. Call ahead or visit a collector's website to learn about costs and restrictions. Ask your local recycling program about upcoming recycling events in your area.

Find a list of collection sites at:

[dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin](http://dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin)

The following items CANNOT be put in the trash or sent to landfills or incinerators:



- Computers (desktops, laptops and tablets)
- Computer monitors (includes e-readers and similar devices with screens of at least 7")
- Computer accessories (mice, keyboards, external hard drives, etc.)
- TVs
- Cell phones
- DVD players, VCRs and DVRs
- Desktop printers and printers that also scan, fax or copy
- Fax machines

The above items and other electronics can be RECYCLED throughout the state.



[dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin](http://dnr.wi.gov/ecyclewisconsin)



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## **Key questions to ask electronics recyclers**

### **DNR Waste and Materials Management Program**

Even if you don't have time to exhaustively research your electronics recycling options, it is important **to ask a few simple questions** to make sure your electronics will be properly recycled, as required by law.

Recyclers should be able to tell you how they handle materials, the percentage of materials they are actually able to recycle or reuse, and what happens to the materials once they are sent to "downstream" recyclers.

It is also critically important to ask about **data destruction** and make sure your recycler has a good system in place for destroying personal, financial and especially confidential data from computers and other electronics.

We recommend that you **call at least two or three different recyclers** and ask them similar questions. This will quickly give you a feel for which are prepared to provide answers and have good processes in place.

Below are some simple questions you can use when investigating your electronics recycling options.

- What electronics does the recycler accept?
- What fees (if any) does the recycler charge, and for what types of equipment?
- Does the recycler offer pick-up service, or do you have to drop items off yourself?
- What does the recycler do with electronics it collects (e.g., send them to another company for demanufacturing/processing, process in-house, refurbish and donate, etc.)?
- What steps does the recycler take to make sure materials with hazardous components don't end up in landfills or incinerators, or improperly disposed of (e.g., illegally dumped) in the United States or overseas?
- What percentage of materials the recycler receives is eventually recycled or reused?
- Will the recycler provide a certificate of recycling/proper disposal?
- What steps does the recycler take to destroy personal and confidential data and ensure the security of personal and financial information?
- What steps does the recycler take to ensure worker safety?

For more information on finding electronics recyclers, visit our discarded electronics Web pages at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/ewaste/>

You can also find more detailed discussion in the DNR publication *Managing Used Computers: A Guide for Environmentally Sound Disposal* at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/publications/anewpub/wa420.pdf>



**Waste & Materials Management**  
 E-Cycle Wisconsin registered collection sites  
 Site Counties: Dodge, Fond du Lac, Green Lake  
 Materials Accepted: All

4/9/2015  
10:11:20 AM

Site Type: All

Accepts From: All

Collector Name/ Website	Site Name/ Site Type	Site Address	Site Phone
<b>Dodge County</b>			
<a href="http://www.amazinggoodwill.com">Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Wisconsin http://www.amazinggoodwill.com</a>	<a href="#">More Details</a> Goodwill Permanent	130 Frances Ln Beaver Dam, WI 53916	(920) 885-3109
<a href="http://www.staples.com/recycle">Staples Inc http://www.staples.com/recycle</a>	<a href="#">More Details</a> Staples Permanent	1613 N. Spring St. Beaver Dam, WI 53511	(920) 885-4005
<a href="http://www.advanceddisposal.com">Advanced Disposal www.advanceddisposal.com</a>	<a href="#">More Details</a> Advanced Disposal - Horicon Permanent	N7296 Hwy V Horicon, WI 53032	(920) 387-0987
<b>Fond Du Lac County</b>			
<a href="http://www.bestbuy.com/recycle">Best Buy www.bestbuy.com/recycle</a>	<a href="#">More Details</a> FOND-DU-LAC WI Permanent	335 N PIONEER RD FOND DU LAC, WI 54935	(888) 237-8289
<a href="http://www.amazinggoodwill.com">Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Wisconsin http://www.amazinggoodwill.com</a>	<a href="#">More Details</a> Goodwill Permanent	904 S. Main St. Fond du Lac, WI 54934	(920) 923-5246
<a href="http://milwaukeekeepc.com/Services/Recycling/">Milwaukee PC http://milwaukeekeepc.com/Services/Recycling/</a>	<a href="#">More Details</a> Fond du Lac Permanent	512 S. Military Rd Fond du Lac, WI 54935	(262) 208-9437
<a href="http://www.shopsilica.com">Silica Hardware Inc http://www.shopsilica.com</a>	<a href="#">More Details</a> Silica Appliance and Electronics Permanent	498 N. Rolling Meadows Dr. Fond du Lac, WI 54937	(920) 929-0126
<a href="http://www.staples.com/recycle">Staples Inc http://www.staples.com/recycle</a>	<a href="#">More Details</a> Staples Permanent	835 W. Johnson St. Fond du Lac, WI 54935	(920) 924-6848
<a href="http://www.wm.com">WM Recycle America LLC www.wm.com</a>	<a href="#">More Details</a> Fond du Lac Transfer Station Permanent	1207 S Hicory St. Fond du Lac, WI 54935	(888) 960-0008
<a href="http://www.BargainsGaloreThriftStore.com">Bargains Galore Thrift Store www.BargainsGaloreThriftStore.com</a>	<a href="#">More Details</a> Bargains Galore Thrift Store Permanent	810 W. Main Street Waupun, WI 53963	(920) 324-8677 Ext 4