



EverLights

2011

The Truth Behind Electronic
Waste Recycling



EverLi



What is Electronic Waste?

Electronic waste (e-waste) is a term that can be loosely applied to consumer and business electronic equipment that is near or at the end of its useful life. There is no clear definition for e-waste, since the types of products that should be grouped into this category are always changing.

Beginning January 1, 2012, electronics that will be considered e-waste include:

- Televisions
- Monitors
- Printers
- Computers (including tablet computers)
- Electronic Keyboards
- Facsimile Machines
- Videocassette Recorders
- Portable Digital Music Players
- Digital Video Disc Players
- Video Game Consoles
- Small Scale Servers
- Scanners
- Electronic Mice
- Digital Converter Boxes
- Cable Receivers
- Satellite Receivers
- Digital Video Disc Recorders

Hazards of E-Waste

Some electronics, CRT computer monitors, televisions, cell phones, portable electronics and other devices, test as “hazardous waste” under federal law. These hazardous items contain lead, cadmium, mercury, and other harsh components that are damaging to the environment and are subject to special handling requirements under federal law. At present, there is no federal mandate to recycle all types of electronic waste. However, the EPA can fine a company that is unlawfully exporting electronics out of the United States.

By 2012, disposal of certain e-waste in municipal waste and sanitary landfills and at incinerators will be prohibited. The fine for violations of the new law will increase from \$1,000 to \$7,000. It also gives the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) greater regulatory authority for violations of the act, according to the governor’s office.

Handle Your Old Electronics Properly

EverLights ensures that all of your e-waste is properly and thoroughly disposed of. If materials aren’t recycled properly, your identity and private information could be at risk. These risks are present if your materials are sent to a company that doesn’t guarantee shredding or hard drive

destruction. Our recycling procedures follow all regulations and guidelines and we guarantee the safety of your private information.

In addition to the strict environmental regulations against sending scrapped materials to landfills, there are also ethical concerns over shipping these products overseas. When e-waste is shipped overseas, your identity and private information are also put at risk. EverLights guarantees that your e-waste will never be sent overseas.

Your Safety is Assured

EverLights will supply you with all the necessary paperwork to verify proper recycling to anyone at any time. Shortly after receiving your materials, we will supply you with a certificate of recycling, proving that your e-waste was handled using the proper methods, while abiding by all laws and regulations.

Recycling

Equipment that is designated for recycling is manually broken down, separated by material (metal, plastic, glass) and each commodity is sent to downstream vendors for complete recycling and re-use.

Hard drives that have been removed from components are registered and shredded using dedicated hard drive shredding equipment.

Potential Fines

Failure to comply with federal and state regulations can lead to fines ranging from a few thousand dollars all the way to millions of dollars, depending upon the severity of the incident.

Company	Date	Fine	Reason
Supreme Asset Management and Recovery	8/17/2009	\$199,900	Illegally exporting non-working computer monitors
ZKW Trading	1/20/2010	\$37,500	Failure to properly manage electronic waste
Jet Ocean Technologies Inc.	8/1/2008	\$32,500	Illegally shipping 441 cathode ray computer monitors
eWaste Center, Inc.	10/29/2010	\$18,000	Improper handling of cathode ray tubes from discarded televisions and computer monitors
Park County, CO	10/14/2011	\$9,080	Illegal storage of electronic waste

The Problem

For those needing to dispose of computers, printers, monitors, telecommunication, medical and other electronic devices, the classification of the residue as “e-scrap” can create potentially expensive and aggravating problems.

E-scrap, the residue from de-manufactured e-waste, is classified in regulations as “universal waste.” Universal Waste is a category of materials not designated as “hazardous waste,” but contains materials that need to be prevented from free release into the environment. Poor handling of e-scrap can increase recycling costs, while also raising liability risks.

The Solution

Our e-waste recycling service reduces end of life electronic equipment of all kinds back down to fundamental commodity elements, in full compliance with all existing federal and state government regulations and environmental directives, and provides your company with detailed reporting.

EverLights’ services go beyond e-waste recycling. We also handle all other forms of universal waste, including lamps and ballast.

Not the Solution

Many companies offering to recycle electronics, especially those promoting low prices, send the equipment overseas for processing. Should the true nature of this kind of processing become known, it can turn into a public relations nightmare, since it’s most often the equipment’s owner, and not the recycler, who is blamed.

EverLights does not send any equipment or components outside the US for processing. All equipment is reduced to smaller size commodity grade elements of steel, aluminum, plastic and glass. The commodities are then sent to selected downstream processors for conversion into new products.

EverLights does not send any equipment, components or re-useable commodity grade materials to any landfill anywhere in the world. Keeping materials out of landfills is the only way to guarantee protection from future liability, since EPA regulations can change and polluters can be held liable at a later date.

The Destruction Process

Upon arrival at the EverLights facility, each pallet is sorted and labeled according to materials. The individual pieces on the pallet are counted, verified against the shipping manifest and placed in appropriate locations. EverLights will ensure that each piece of equipment is handled properly.

De-manufacture

There are five fundamental processes applied in the reduction of electronic equipment to commodity grade materials.

Primary De-manufacture

Each piece of equipment is disassembled, separating metals, plastics and wire into individual containers and isolating any encountered hard drives.

Secondary De-manufacture

Hard drives are confined in a secure holding area until scheduled for shredding. Hard drives are added to the shredding process to maximize production efficiencies and commodity density.

Eddy Current Separation

All shredded materials are passed through a process through an eddy current process to separate non-ferrous metals, primarily aluminum, from the plastics.

Plastic Separation

In order to ensure maximum re-use, all plastics are manually separated by type of resin, and baled for transport to plastic re-processors.

Final Conversion

All de-manufactured components, plus shredded and separated commodity grade materials, are packed and shipped to the appropriate downstream processors.

Metals Recovered From a Wide Variety of Equipment

Precious metals can often be recovered from a wide variety of electronic equipment, including integrated circuits, printed circuit boards, modules, connectors, electrical contacts and connectors, network equipment, cell phones, radio equipment, aircraft instrumentation, satellite, digital and analog cable boxes, plated stampings, thick-thin film, ceramics and assorted scrap. Bring any of these materials to EverLights and we'll make sure those metals are recovered and re-used.

Equipment destined for destruction and precious metal recovery is tracked with the proper software. Each of the following components is recorded.

- The unit volume and weight of all equipment that is recorded upon the pallet's arrival at the EverLights facility.
- Equipment whose internal hard drives might contain data of any kind is subject to a three-step wiping process before being sent off for salvage or destruction.

- The weight of all commodity materials and salvaged precious metals is recorded at the completion of the destruction process.
- At the conclusion of the process, a Certificate of Recycling is delivered to your business verifying that all equipment was processed in accordance with all EPA state and federal regulations.

Destruction Methods Certified by the Environment

Assets that are sent for destruction are shredded using proper procedures. Each piece of equipment is recorded before the destruction process. Units are then reduced to small bits of metal, plastic and glass, which are forwarded to carefully selected downstream vendors who convert it all into reusable commodities.

Certificate of Recycling

Upon completion of the e-waste recycling process, your business will receive a Certificate of Recycling, signifying that it has followed all laws and regulations for properly handling and recycling of e-waste.



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