

# EPR IN WASHINGTON STATE

## ELECTRONICS

Globally, an estimated \$52 billion in recoverable electronics waste is sent to landfills each year, where it can contaminate the environment with toxic metals like lead and cadmium. Less than 40% is collected for recycling, but most components are recyclable.

### WHAT IS E-CYCLE WASHINGTON?

E-Cycle Washington is a statewide recycling program for used computers, televisions, and monitors. Electronic products contain valuable materials that can be recycled and toxic chemicals that should be kept out of the landfill.

### HOW IT WORKS

- Washington residents, small businesses, small local governments\*, and schools can **drop-off televisions, monitors, computers, tablets, e-readers, portable DVD players, and laptops for free** at collection sites and events across the state.
- One collection site is **required** for each city or town with a population greater than 10,000. Collectors receive compensation for the material they collect.
- The collected items are **recycled**. Metals, plastics, and glass are separated and sold as commodities to be reused as raw materials in the **manufacturing of new products**.
- The program is run by the Washington Materials Management and Financing Authority (WMMFA) which collects fees from electronics manufacturers to fund the program.
- The Washington State Department of Ecology oversees the program. Local governments and communities are encouraged to provide feedback in an annual satisfaction survey.
- Local governments can order outreach materials for free by emailing [info@wmmfa.net](mailto:info@wmmfa.net) or calling 855-674-5871.



\* City governments with populations of less than 50,000 and County governments with populations of less than 125,000 may dispose of their unwanted covered devices free of charge

# PROGRAM SUCCESS



In 2022 there were **224 registered electronics collectors**.



From 2009 to 2022 the program collected **226,669 tons of electronics** for recycling.



More than **200 producers** participate in the program.



Cost savings for local governments in 2022: > **\$4,967,748**.



## Collection breakdown 2023

Computers

Monitors

Televisions

693  
tons

922  
tons

4822  
tons



## Northwest Product Stewardship Council

Interested in learning more and supporting these programs in Washington? Join the Northwest Product Stewardship Council (NWPSC). The NWPSC is a coalition of government agencies in Oregon and Washington that work together to develop and improve Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and Product Stewardship policies and programs.

The NWPSC has been instrumental in establishing statewide programs such as:

- E-Cycle (electronics recycling)
- LightRecycle (mercury-containing lights)
- Safe Medication Return (drug takeback)
- PaintCare (architectural paint)
- Solar (PV module takeback)
- EPR for Batteries

Questions about the NWPSC? [info@productstewardship.net](mailto:info@productstewardship.net)



Questions about the program? [1800recycle@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:1800recycle@ecy.wa.gov)

Find collection sites at: [www.ecyclewa.org](http://www.ecyclewa.org)