

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- Increased demand for use of raw materials
- Increase in energy required for production and use of fossil fuels
- Increase in greenhouse gas from the manufacture, use and disposal of e-waste
- Release of hazardous substances into the environment when e-waste ends up in landfill
- Immediate and long term impacts on human health

SOME SIMPLE STEPS WE CAN TAKE TO HELP REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF E-WASTE:

- Ask ourselves 'do we need the latest technology?'
- Explore the possibility of upgrading or repairing current equipment
- Check if friends, local groups or charities can use old equipment if still in working order
- When equipment is at the end of its life, dispose of through your local Council service that recycles e-waste or at a drop-off facility

WHERE CAN I TAKE IT?

Check with your local Council to find out if e-waste is collected with your verge waste collection service. Alternatively, items may be taken to:

ARMADALE LANDFILL AND RECYCLING FACILITY	Hopkinson Road, Brookdale 8.00am – 4.45pm 7 days (except Christmas Day, New Years Day and Good Friday) Phone 9399 0111 Fees may apply
MANDURAH WASTE MANAGEMENT CENTRE	Lot 10 Mandurah 7.00AM – 4.00PM Mon-Fri 8.00AM – 5.00PM Weekends and Public Holidays (Except Christmas Day, New Years Day and Good Friday) Phone 9550 4700 Fees May Apply

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Visit the Rivers Regional Council website:

www.rrc.wa.gov.au

or

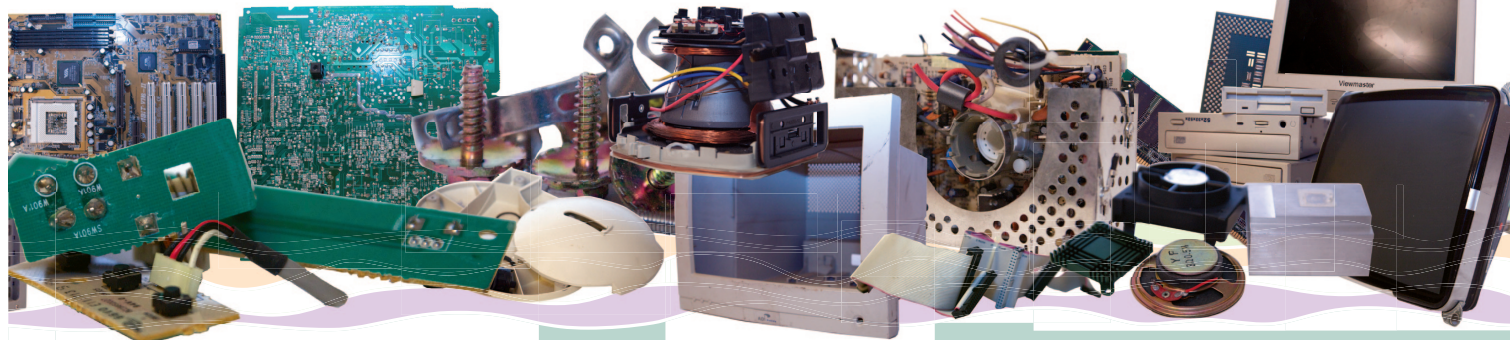
Visit the ZeroWaste WA website:

www.zerowastewa.com.au

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E-waste Recycling

Helping create a zero waste environment



WHAT IS E-WASTE?

E-waste is any broken, obsolete or unused electronic equipment including personal computers, peripherals such as printers and keyboards, televisions, and associated cabling.

These items contain significant amounts of valuable materials that can be recovered and recycled for reuse. They also contain several hazardous substances, such as, arsenic in cathode ray tubes and cadmium in semiconductors, that can impact adversely on human health and the environment.



Some 75% of toxic chemicals found in landfills can be attributed to electronic waste. When disposed of correctly, the majority of materials and toxic

substances can be recovered and reprocessed for re-use, and the remaining small portion, about 1% or 200 grams for every tonne, will be disposed of responsibly.

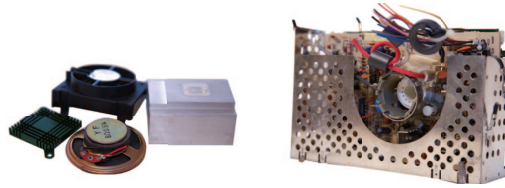


To prevent e-waste going to landfill, some local Councils collect it separately with the verge bulk waste collections.

There are also a number of designated drop-off facilities where these items can be taken to be recycled.



WHAT HAPPENS TO THE E-WASTE WE COLLECT?



When e-waste is recovered for recycling, the materials are forwarded to markets both locally and overseas and used as raw materials in further recycling and manufacturing processes.

HOW IS THE EWASTE RECYCLED?

E-waste is separated into different key components for recycling. Examples are:

MATERIAL	PROCESSING
GLASS (Found in old computer monitors and tv screens)	Crushed and reprocessed for use in lead based glass products and road base.
METALS (Found in drives, screws and other parts)	Reprocessed into a range of metal products.
PLASTICS (Found in casings and circuit boards)	Reprocessed into electronic housing, packaging, pallets and textiles.
ALUMINIUM (Found in casing and wire)	Remanufactured into various aluminium products.
GOLD & SILVER (Found in circuit boards and keyboards)	Recovered for reprocessing into a variety of products.

THE FACTS

Our growing desire for computers and electronics has led to e-waste becoming the world's fastest growing waste stream. Some contributing factors to this increase are:



- New technologies are developing so quickly and we, the consumers, want to own the latest and the best.
- Analogue TVs are being phased out with many people already switching to digital.
- It is generally cheaper to replace items than to repair them, although this does not consider the long term costs.

The global reserves of some materials found in electronic waste have only limited life remaining.

Copper – 60 years of global reserves remain

Lead – 42 years of global reserves remain

A recent UN study found that the manufacture of one desktop computer and standard monitor requires:

- 240 kilograms of fossil fuels
- 22 kilograms of chemicals
- 1,500 litres of water

That's the same resources required to manufacture a medium sized car.

Recycling one tonne of computers will prevent three to five tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions.

