

Recycling Electronics

Most electronics contain hazardous or toxic materials which can cause an environmental problem if discarded in the trash. Safely recycling and reusing electronics helps keep substances like lead and mercury from harming people or the environment.

Examples:

- Computer monitors and televisions are hazardous because they contain significant amounts of lead (an average of four pounds of lead each).
- Printed circuit boards contain hazardous metals such as lead, chromium, cadmium and mercury, with significant variation depending on the board.
- Batteries in electronic and electrical products may contain lead, mercury and cadmium.
- Mercury-containing components like switches and relays are found in some electronic and electrical products, including the popular flat screen monitors.
- Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) may be found in televisions and computers made before the early 1980s.

Source: Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance

Electronics also contain valuable materials which can be extracted and recycled. These materials include steel, aluminum, copper, and precious metals such as gold, silver, and palladium. *Continued on pg 2.*

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Nationally, the most common way that children become exposed to lead is by breathing or swallowing dust or chips of lead-based paint, which is often found in and around housing or child-care facilities built prior to 1978, when lead-based residential paints were banned in the U.S.



October 20 – October 26, 2013 • 1-800-424-LEAD (5323)
National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week

Electronics cont'd

Plastic is also collected but is not very profitable due to its low value and high volume.

Approximately 320 tons of gold and greater than 7,500 tons of silver is used each year to make new electronic products around the world. If these materials can be recovered and recycled, the carbon footprint would be drastically reduced compared to extracting virgin materials. Unfortunately, the recycling rate is still very low for electronics. Recycling electronics is labor intensive and requires managing hazardous waste.

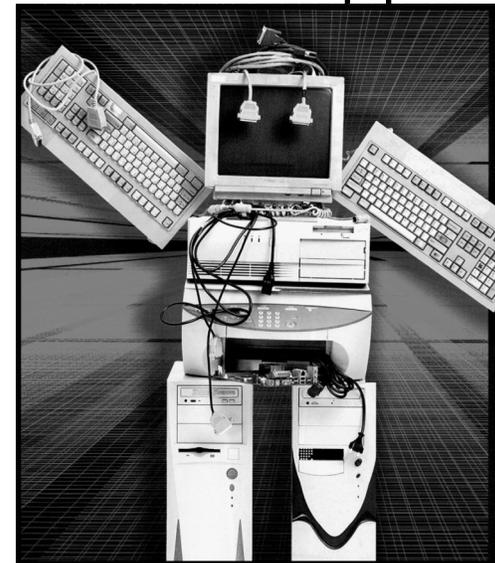
What can you do?

Do not store old electronics at your residence. Bring them to an appropriate collection point, such as the Carlton County

Transfer Station, 1950 Highway 210 or WLSSD's Materials Recovery Center, 4587 Ridgeview Rd, Duluth. Prices for electronics at the Transfer Station are \$2 each or less. Visit wlssd.com for their prices.

Accepted electronics for recycling:

- TVs
 - Monitors
 - Printers
 - Scanners
 - Fax Machines
 - VCRs
 - DVD Players
 - DVRs
 - CPUs
 - Laptops
- Also accepted:
- Cords
 - Keyboards
 - Mice



**Questions?
218-384-9178**

Be a conscious consumer. Before purchasing an electronic or an appliance ask yourself, "is it recyclable at it's end-of-life?"

Ask the salesperson if the store has a "take back" program for devices.

Avoid purchasing electronic gadgets and kitchen gizmos. They are often cheaply made, have a short life, and are not recyclable. Do you really need a Panini sandwich press or label maker? They will be garbage at the end-of-life.

75% of end-of-life electronic devices are estimated to be stored in private homes.

Repair your electronics. Reduce generating electronic waste by extending the life of your electronic. Contact a local repair shop to see if they can fix it before you throw it out!

**J&M Electronics
715 Carlton Ave
Cloquet, MN
218-879-3168**

**Precision Electronics
210 N 6th Ave E
Duluth, MN 55805
218-723-1936**

**Larry's Electronic
Repair Center
521 N Central Ave
Duluth, MN 55807
218-624-9592**

Carlton County does not recommend or warrant the work of any of these businesses. The list is provided as a service to the public. Other contacts may be available.

Upcycle: Turn old stuff into useful stuff.



Speaker box to chicken roost.



iMac pet bed



Speaker to media cabinet.

Emerald Ash Borer



EAB was discovered in Douglas County, WI in August 2013.

UGA2106098

What to know about EAB:

- It is an exotic beetle from Asia.
- It attacks only ash trees (*Fraxinus* spp.).
- After infection, trees die in 1 to 3 years.
- Adult beetles are metallic green and about 1/2-inch long.
- Adults leave a D-shaped exit hole in the bark when they emerge in spring.
- Woodpeckers like EAB larvae; heavy woodpecker damage on ash trees may be a sign of infestation.
- Do not move firewood! It can transport EAB and other invasive pests.

www.emeraldashborer.info

**Carlton County
Household Hazardous
Waste Facility
and
Product Reuse Area**

Carlton County Transfer Station
1950 Highway 210, Carlton, MN

Closed for the season!

Open again in May 2014.

WLSSD operates a Household Hazardous Waste Facility and Product Reuse Center year round. They are located at 2626 Courtland Street in Duluth (off the 27th Ave West Exit). Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. They can be reached at 218-722-3336.

Common items you should bring to the HHW facility:

Latex paint
Oil paint
Stain and varnish
Pesticides (herbicides, fungicides, insecticides)
Gasoline and other fuels
Solvents
Mercury thermometers
Mercury thermostats
Pool chemicals
Fluorescent light bulbs
Rechargeable batteries

****NEW @ the Transfer Station****

**Antifreeze disposal
available year-round!**

Winter Recycle Shed Hours

**Carlton County Transfer Station (1950 Hwy 210)
November 1st – March 31st**

**Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Barnum (behind fire hall)
Year-Round Hours**

**Monday: 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Friday: 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Carlton (County Highway 1)
November 1st – March 31st**

**Monday: 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Thursday: 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

**Thomson / Esko (next to town hall)
November 1st – March 31st**

**Monday: 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Thursday: 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

**Moose Lake (next to arena)
Year-Round Hours**

**Thursday: 3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Friday: 3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Perch Lake (next to town hall)
Year-Round Hours**

**Monday: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Thursday: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

What can you bring?

STAFFED SHEDS (BARNUM, CARLTON, PERCH LAKE, MOOSE LAKE AND ESKO/THOMSON):

Glass jars and bottles, plastics #1 thru #7, tin cans, aluminum cans, newspapers, magazines, box board and office paper

UNSTAFFED SHEDS (BLACKHOOF, CROMWELL, HOLYOKE, KETTLE RIVER, MAHTOWA, WRIGHT):

Glass jars and bottles, plastics #1 thru #7, tin cans, aluminum cans and newspapers

TRANSFER STATION:

Glass jars and bottles, plastics #1 thru #7, tin cans, aluminum cans, newspapers, magazines, corrugated cardboard, car batteries, medical sharps and used motor oil and filters