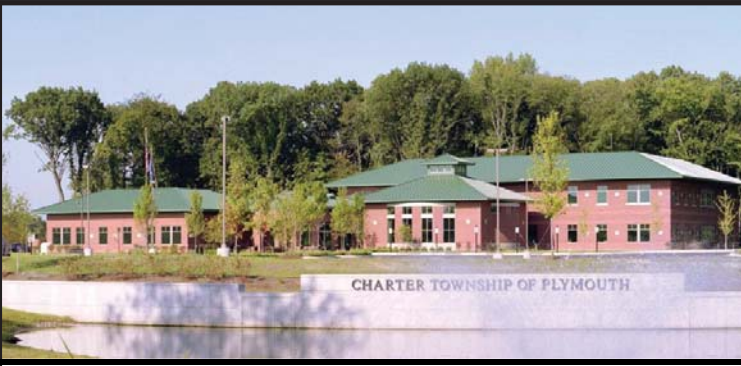


CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH FACT SHEET ELECTRONICS DISPOSAL



Talkin' Trash Series



According to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) we disposed of over 2 million tons of electronic equipment in 2010. We did recycle 27 % of this waste. That means, however, that 73% of this waste was landfilled. Unfortunately, electronics contain several pollutants that when landfilled could potentially get into our air and water. These include:

- **Cadmium** (resistors & semi conductors)
- **Lead** (glass panels, soldering of circuit boards)
- **Mercury** (thermostats, sensors & switches)
- **Chromium** (steel plates)
- **Brominated Flame Retardants** (on circuit boards, plastic covers and cables)

And we just keep buying more...

Even when there was an overall drop of municipal waste in the US during the period 2007 - 2008 there was an increase in the amount of electronics waste. It has been estimated that in 2012 US consumers purchased 23 million laptops, 36 million tablets and e-readers, 81 million iPads, 108 million smart phones and 190 million iPhones. The Superbowl generates it's own market of television purchases each year. In 2011, for example, 4.6 million people bought a new TV to watch the Superbowl.

Disposal Options

There are several options for disposing of your unwanted electronics including donation and recycling outlets.

Donation

If you have a computer that is less than five (5) years old there may be some groups who could use it. Try your local church or school or one of these websites:

Computers with Causes-Charitable Donations

<http://www.computerswithcauses.org/computer-donation-michigan.htm>

JDS Computer Donation-Donates Laptops to Overseas Military Personnel

<http://www.military-money-matters.com/donate-a-laptop.html#axzz2MxLp3rp8>

IRS Tax Deduction

Don't forget to ask about documentation so you can get an IRS tax deduction for your charitable donation.





Disposal Options Cont.

RECYCLE

Unfortunately we do not yet collect electronics in your curbside recycle bin, but recycling your electronics is getting easier and more convenient. Try one of the events or locations listed below.

Collection Sites & Events

Collection events often take many types of electronics.

Wayne County Household Hazardous Waste

Collection Events. Several events are held each year in different locations around Wayne County. They are open to all residents of the County. Contact Wayne County Department of Public Services for more information at 734-326-3936.

Plymouth Township Household Hazardous Waste

Events. The Township hosts an annual event each spring for Township residents only. Contact the Solid Waste Department for information on acceptable items at 734-354-3270 ext. 4.

Recycle Ann Arbor Drop Off. Recycle Ann Arbor has a drop off site open to anyone. There is a small entry fee and other fees may apply for certain items. Contact Recycle Ann Arbor at 734-971-7400.

Retail Stores

Many of the top electronics retail stores are now accepting old electronics for recycling. Local retail stores are listed below:

Best Buy Stores - www.bestbuy.com

Burroughs Payment Systems - 734-737-4206

Office Depot - www.officedepot.com

Staples - www.staples.com

PROTECT YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

BEFORE YOU DISPOSE OF YOUR COMPUTER IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO CLEAN YOUR HARD DRIVE!

All computers have important, non-encrypted, sensitive data on them such as passwords, documents, credit card information, emails and web site visit logs. Deleting the files will not remove this sensitive data from your hard drive. Contact your manufacturer or the retailers listed for more information.

