

Electronics Recycling

The Information Age has created a virtual tidal wave of electronic devices – including computers and computer monitors that become obsolete or wear out at an increasingly faster rate. The demand for newer, superior technology has increased the pace at which current devices reach the end of their useful lives. As a result, what to do with obsolete electronics has become a global problem. Disposal is not the answer, computers, computer monitors, various pc parts, and other electronics need to be properly handled rather than being sent to a landfill. Old electronics should not be considered waste; they are a resource. Useful materials such as glass, copper, aluminum, plastic and other components can often be extracted and reused. Producing glass, plastic, and metals from recycled materials can save up to 90 percent of the energy it takes to make these from virgin materials.

The Alexander County Solid Waste Department has electronics recycling locations set up at the Landfill and all 6 Convenience Centers. Recently the Solid Waste Department was awarded a NCDENR Waste Reduction Grant which allowed the purchase of collection trailers to spot at each Convenience Center. Electronics recycling is free to the citizens of Alexander County and here is a partial list of the items that are accepted:

- Computers – CPU's and Laptops, Mainframes, Keyboards, Mice, Speakers, Hard Drives, Zip Drives, DVD Drives, Floppy Drives, Servers, Routers, Hubs
- Monitors – CRT's and Flat Screens
- Telephones, Cell phones, Answering Machines, and Pagers
- Fax Machines, Adding Machines, Typewriters, Projectors
- Printers and Copiers
- Medical Equipment
- Rechargeable Batteries
- Electronic Circuit Boards and Components
- Stereo Equipment, Cables, Record Players, Games, PDA's
- VCR's, DVD players, Remotes, TV's, and Camcorders
- Anything else that plugs in!

Please note that large, floor model televisions, must be taken directly to the Landfill location for recycling. Last year Alexander County residents recycled over 100 tons of electronics! That's something to be proud of! Just think, all that electronic material used to be buried in a landfill forever, now it's being used to make new products. How awesome is that!? If you have any questions please contact the Alexander County Solid Waste/Recycling Department @ 632-1101 or 632-9467.