



eCycling Advisory Committee

Overview of eCycling

[Quick eCycling Facts]

- Over 20 million personal computers became obsolete in 1998. Only 13 percent were reused or recycled.
- Over 130 cell phones retired nationally in 2005, that number is expected to grow each year.
- Electronics compromise 1-4 percent of the municipal solid waste stream.
- Electronics recyclers are geographically concentrated; half of all electronics recycling firms are in the Mid-Atlantic and Midwest regions of the United States.

[Types of Materials]

- **Cadmium** - found in chip resistors, infrared detectors, and semiconductors
- **Lead** - found in glass panels in computer monitors and in lead soldering of printed circuit boards
- **Mercury** - found in thermostats, position sensors, relays and switches (e.g., on printed circuit boards), discharge lamps, and batteries. It is also used in medical equipment, data transmission, telecommunications, and mobile phones.
- **Hexavalent Chromium or Chromium VI** - can be used to protect against corrosion of untreated and galvanized steel plates
- **Brominated Flame Retardants** - found on printed circuit boards, components such as plastic covers and cables as well as plastic covers of televisions
- **Arsenic, Beryllium, and Copper** – found in cell phones

[Federal Law]

- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act covers the disposal of solid and hazardous waste by large businesses and organizations
- No uniform federal law for the disposal of consumer electronics
- Undecided on whether states should adopt model laws or if federal legislation is needed

[State Law: HB 2946 (2007)]

- Department of General Services to set procedures requiring, to the extent practicable, the recycling and disposal of computers and other information technology assets.
- Must adhere to information security policies set by VITA
- VITA provides technical guidance

[Other States]

- Five states have banned the disposal of Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) monitors in landfills
- Four states have passed statewide electronic recycling laws
 - Manufacturer financed
 - Consumer financed; Advanced Recycling Fee (ARF)

[2007 Workplan]

- Identify issues for study
- Consumer v. State
- Determine if legislative action needs to be taken during the 2008 Session
- Develop legislative proposals for consideration by JCOTS