

Five simple steps to recycling your electronics

Find yourself with piles of old or unwanted electronics in your cupboards, drawers, basement or garage? Not sure what to do with them? Just follow these five simple steps to reduce your clutter and do your part to protect the environment.



- 1. Know where to go.** There are over 600 collection points across Ontario where residents and businesses can drop off their used and unwanted electronic waste for safe and secure recycling. To find your nearest location, visit www.recycleyourelectronics.ca and enter your community name or postal code. This will bring up a list of permanent collection points, and any upcoming electronics recycling events in your area.
- 2. Review the list of accepted items.** Ontario's "recycle your electronics" program, for example, accepts more than 40 different types of electronic items including computers, phones, stereos and cameras. Currently, the program only has the capacity to process designated items; as the program grows, so will the list of items for take back.
- 3. Double check the site details.** Once you have selected a collection site, have a look at the location, contact information and hours of operation. Any existing restrictions will also be listed. Some collection points limit the number of products you can bring in per day, so it's important to double check these details before loading up your vehicle and heading out the door.
- 4. Protect your privacy.** Some electronic items may contain data that is both valuable and confidential. Before bringing in your electronics for recycling, be sure to backup any important information that you may need in the future and clear all information storage areas such as hard drives and SIM cards.
- 5. Exercise care.** Many types of electronics are both large and heavy, so be sure to exercise caution when transporting them. If you are unable to transport your products safely, call a friend or family member for assistance. Proper work gloves are also a good idea for the person doing the heavy lifting.

Electronic products are not garbage, and do not belong in our landfills. It is everyone's job to ensure they end up in the right hands, and be managed by certified experts. By dropping your electronics off at an approved collection point, you are ensuring your products will be recycled in a safe and responsible way.

Do the world a favour, recycle your electronics.

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Sources:

- Website: www.recycleyouelectronics.ca
- E-mail: customerservice@ontarioelectronicstewardship.ca
- Phone: 1-888-646-1820