

Take a *BYTE* Out of Waste!

E-Waste Fact Sheet

- 🗑️ Electronic waste, or “e-waste”, is the fastest-growing segment of municipal solid waste.
- 💻 More than 2 million tons of electronic waste is buried in landfills each year.
- 🗑️ In 2001, only 11 percent of personal computers retired in the US were recycled.
- 💻 Nearly 250 million computers will become obsolete in the next five years.
- 🗑️ Mobile phones will be discarded at a rate of 130 million per year by 2005.
- 💻 About three billion units of consumer electronics will be scrapped during this decade.
- 🗑️ TVs and computers can contain an average of four pounds of lead, as well as other potentially hazardous materials like chromium, cadmium, mercury, beryllium, nickel, zinc, and brominated flame retardants.
- 💻 Consumer electronics account for 40 percent of lead found in landfills.
- 🗑️ The manufacturing of one desktop computer and 17-inch monitor requires at least 240 kilograms of fossil fuels, 22 kilograms of chemicals and 1,500 kilograms of water. In weight, the materials required equal that of a mid-sized car.
- 💻 Metals mining accounts for 47 percent of all toxics released by US industries.
- 🗑️ E-waste contains 10 to 50 times higher copper content than copper ore. A cell phone contains five to 10 times higher gold content than gold ore.

Sources for the above facts can be found at www.TexasRecyclesDay.org.

For more information about Texas Recycles Day,
visit www.texasrecyclesday.org
or call Keep Texas Beautiful at 1-800-CLEAN-TX.

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REUSE

RECYCLE

REBUY