



RAVEN REPORT

August 2014

E-Waste and You: Safe Disposal

E-waste contains large amounts of precious metals and rare earth elements. It also contains a fair amount of toxins, two very good reasons to recycle and dispose of your e-waste carefully. Platinum, gold, silver, copper and many other valuable metals are used to make electronics, these can easily be recycled and used in the next generation of consumer electronics. E-waste also contains such fun items as dioxins, lead, mercury and polybrominated biphenyls which are all toxic in various interesting ways. E-waste only makes up about 1% of landfills but accounts for 70% of the toxins in them. If that hasn't persuaded you to not dump your e-waste then consider this, recycling one million cellphones will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by the same amount as taking 1,368 cars off the road for a year. Currently, only about 12% of e-waste is being recycled. There's a long way to go.

So, what can you do if you have old electronic stuff? If it's stopped working then go online and see if you can fix it. There are a number of tablets and phones that can be repaired. Repairs are often cheaper than a new gadget. If it's too far gone or ancient by electronic gadget standards, i.e. six months or older, then recycle it. Bell stores will accept old cell phones for reuse or recycling. TV's, printers, fax machines, photocopiers, CRT monitors and the like can go to the Whitehorse Waste Management Facility where they will be accepted for a fee and sent Outside for recycling. Flatscreen monitors, computer towers, laptops as well as keyboards and mice can be dropped off at Raven for Computers for Schools Yukon. Computers that are still working will have their hard drives wiped by experts and sent out to Yukon students and non-profit groups. CFSY will also accept computers from businesses and can provide a certificate stating that the hard drives have been completely wiped on request.

Raven AGM

The 2014 Raven AGM will be held on Tuesday 9th September at the Raven offices 100 Galena Road. Starts 6PM.

DID YOU KNOW?

Glass is mainly made of sand and can be turned back into sand, which can then be turned back into glass and so on ad infinitum. Because glass is heavy Raven does not ship all of it south for recycling. The costs of shipping vastly outweigh what glass is worth. Reusable beer bottles are shipped out for reuse or reused in Whitehorse at the Yukon Bewing Company. Some wine bottles are kept for home winemaking, ask our depot staff for details.

Non-reusable bottles, jars and the like are crushed. Raven can crush glass into different sizes including sand. The sand we sprinkle on the ice around here in the winter is actually crushed glass. The crushing machine takes all the sharp edges off the glass so it's perfectly safe. We also use it in sandbags and our crushed glass has been used by various people around Whitehorse for different projects.



RAVEN RECYCLING
Your Community Recycling Center

www.ravenrecycling.org
867.667.7269
100 Galena Road, Whitehorse, YT

