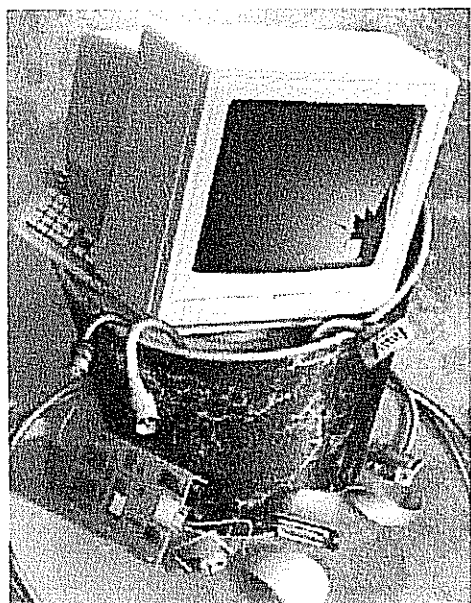


# E-Waste Growing

Texans are becoming more and more dependent on electronic products. Computers, cell phones, televisions, and other electronic products are a rapidly growing part of our lives. As technology advances, making new products obsolete in just a few years, these products have also become a rapidly growing part of our waste. This trend will accelerate in the near future, as households convert to high-definition and digital televisions, and the costs and the potential environmental hazards of disposing of e-waste continue to grow.



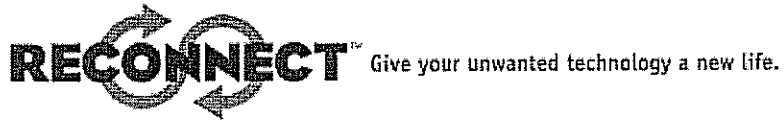
According to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, approximately two million tons of used electronics, including computers and televisions, are discarded each year.

Preventing waste in the first place is usually preferable to any waste management option, including recycling. You can help by becoming an educated consumer, user, and recycler of

electronic products. If you must dispose of electronic equipment, it is important to know how to do it legally and responsibly, including:

- Buy electronics that have environmentally preferable attributes. Look for electronics that:
  - Contain fewer toxic constituents.
  - Use recycled materials in the new product.
  - Designate the energy-efficiency rating.
  - Specify they're designed for easy upgrading or disassembly.
  - Offer leasing or take-back options.
- Upgrade, repair, or refurbish your equipment so you can continue to use it.
- Donate your old electronics to a charity for reuse.
- Drop off your old electronics at a local computer- and electronics-recycling event.

To locate a recycler in your area, check with your local solid waste department, or you can call 1-800CLEANUP or visit [www.1800cleanup.org](http://www.1800cleanup.org).



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RECONNECT is a comprehensive electronics recovery, reuse and environmentally responsible recycling opportunity for consumers in participating communities.

RECONNECT offers FREE drop-off recycling and reuse options for unwanted electronics.

**It's about working together.**

Goodwill Industries and Dell partnered to create RECONNECT, a free program for consumers to reuse and responsibly recycle unwanted electronics.

**It's easy and it's free.**

Simply bring in your donation to your participating local Goodwill store or Goodwill donation drop-off site.

**It's not just the environment that benefits.**

Proceeds from resale value of donations will be returned to Goodwill Industries to support their mission of creating job opportunities for individuals with barriers to employment.