

# E-Waste *the Facts!*



## What is E-Waste?

E-Waste, or electronic waste, are common household electronic devices or appliances with a power cord. This includes

- **Computers:** monitors, keyboards, mice and cables
- Power boards
- Printers and scanners
- Tablets and iPads
- Mobile phones
- Landline phones and answering machines
- TVs
- Remote controls
- Stereo systems, MP3 and CD players
- Digital and video cameras
- DVD and VCR players
- Game consoles
- Power Tools
- **Domestic appliances:** Including hairdryers, irons, kettles, toasters, sewing machines and food processors
- Musical instruments
- Lamps
- Electric fans

## **Are white goods E-waste?**

Yes. Including but not limited to washing machines, microwave ovens, dryers, air-conditioners\* and refrigerators\*

## **Are household batteries E-waste?**

Yes. These can be deposited at the [Community Recycling Centre](#) located at every Council Recycling and Waste Depot. Aldi stores also take household batteries. [Find out more here](#)

## What are the benefits of recycling e-waste?

Many electronic items are a combination of valuable resources worthy of recovery and toxic substances that are harmful to the environment.

### **Precious metals may include:**

Gold, silver, copper, nickel, zinc, aluminium and tin.

When e-waste is properly recycled these metals can be recycled indefinitely and reduces the greenhouse gases created in the mining, processing and transportation process.

When your old technology is sent to landfill these valuable resources are lost forever.

### **Hazardous materials can also be present and may include:**

Heavy metals eg Lead, mercury and cadmium and ozone depleting chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). These dangerous chemicals persist in the environment, meaning they do not break down easily and stay in the environment for a very long time. These substances can cause great environmental damage and be harmful to our health.

It is for this reason that e-waste should never be put into the red kerbside landfill bin.

## How do I recycle E-waste?

E-Waste cannot be recycled via the yellow kerbside bin.

All of Shoalhaven City Council's Recycling and Waste Depots accept E-waste for recycling, at no charge.

E-waste needs to be presented at the depot intact and items that have been physically damaged or tampered with may not be accepted.

If you are unsure whether your item is E-waste call Waste Services on 4429 3111.

## Further reading on E-waste

For more information on what happens to recycled E-waste, alternative recycling schemes and how to remove your data from your mobile phone and computer go to [recyclingnearyou.com.au](http://recyclingnearyou.com.au)

\*A small fee applies for degassing of refrigerant removal