

# WHAT YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT E-WASTE

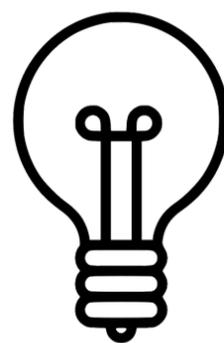


## WHAT IS E-WASTE?

Now you might be wondering, what exactly is e-waste? The term e-waste, is applied to consumer and business electronic equipment that is near or at the end of its useful life. This includes household appliances, temperature exchange equipment, screens, and small IT.

## WHY SHOULD WE CARE?

E-waste contains many chemicals we know to be fatal in cases, such as lead and mercury. Toxins from these metals can cause brain damage, nervous system damage, respiratory damage, paralysis, memory loss, and sometimes even death. These chemicals are especially dangerous because of their ability to permeate soil, water, and air, and make their way into our bodies and the environment when they are not properly disposed of.

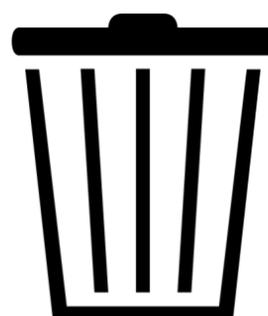


## FACT#1

According to the New York Times, Americans alone throw away phones worth \$60 million in gold and silver every year. These precious metals in e-waste are more concentrated than what is found in the most productive mines, and have the potential to be recycled and repurposed!

## FACT#2

The World Economic Forum reports that e-waste is the fastest growing waste stream in the world. The UN reports that we produce up to 50 million tons of e-waste a year! 50 million tons in weight is equivalent to 150,000 planes, or 4,500 Eiffel Towers, both alone are enough to cover an area the size of Manhattan. By 2021, the annual worldwide total of e-waste is predicted to exceed 57 million tons.



## FACT#3

According to Columbia University, China accepted 70% of the world's electronic waste up until 2018, when they announced a ban on imports of 24 different kinds of waste—including e-waste. This sudden action left many countries to reconsider their management of waste, encouraging global powers to take steps towards minimizing their trash through more sustainable practices.

## WHAT CAN WE DO?

Instead of carelessly throwing our trash away, we need to start recycling! The reuse and recycling of electronic equipment is a beneficial alternative and better than disposal. It is time to spread awareness about this problem and the many recycling organizations and drop off locations that are already out there. If we don't, e-waste will continue to keep building up and affect us along with future generations.



**“WE DO NOT INHERIT THE EARTH FROM OUR ANCESTORS, WE BORROW IT FROM OUR CHILDREN.”**

**THANK YOU!**

- Kasey Le, Maddie Prislín, Moriah Gilmore, Sydney Bumg, and Mei Wai