



ROUND2 RECYCLING FACTS

Q: What percent of the municipal solid waste stream is represented by used electronics?

- A:** Less than 2%
5%
8%
12%

Less than 2% of the municipal solid waste stream is represented by electronics. Good news, right? Well, not exactly. That number is almost certain to grow as long as consumers continue to replace obsolete equipment as frequently as they are now, and as long as problem-plagued gadgets reach the marketplace in vast numbers.

SOURCE: Fact Sheet: Management of Electronic Waste in the United States | United States Environmental Protection Agency

Q: According to an Oberlin College study, how many computer disks are thrown away every year?

- A:** Half a million
1.5 million
Half a billion
1.5 billion

Almost 4 million computer disks are thrown out on a daily basis, or 1.5 billion annually. According to the study, this is the equivalent of a stack of disks the same height as Chicago's Sears Tower being created every 21 seconds. But don't worry, they'll degrade in 500 years.

SOURCE: Interesting Facts About Recycling | Oberlin College Resource Conservation Team

Q: According to the Environmental Protection Agency, how many desktop computers are in storage?

- A:** 6 million
66 million
660 million
6 billion

Not all used electronics are disposed of improperly. A considerable portion of them sits in closets, attics and garages, where they will do nothing but gather dust for the conceivable future. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that as of 2007, 65.7 million desktop computers languish in storage.

SOURCE: Statistics on the Management of Used and End-of-Life Electronics | United States Environmental Protection Agency

Q: The automotive and jewelry industries all use metals recycled from what technology?

- A:** Blackberries
Cell phones
DVD Players
iPods

Just as with other electronics, cell phones contain a wealth of metals that can be recovered in the recycling process, such as copper, gold, platinum, silver and zinc. All of these metals are used in a variety of industries, including automotive and jewelry, or they can be re-used in other forms of electronics.

SOURCE: Frequent Questions | United States Environmental Protection Agency

Q: How many laptops must be recycled to save an amount of energy equal to the electricity used by 3,657 homes annually?

- A:** 1 million
1.5 million
2 million
3 million

Recycling one million laptops saves the energy equivalent to the electricity used by 3,657 US homes in a single year.

SOURCE: Frequent Questions | United States Environmental Protection Agency