

Cell Phone Recycling

Cell phones are one of the fastest growing forms of electronic waste. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the average cell phone lifespan is about 18 months. More than 125 million phones are discarded every year. Cell phones contain hazardous components that are harmful to human health and the environment if improperly disposed.

Cell phones don't belong in the trash. Numerous options exist to donate or recycle them:

Charitable donation opportunities: [The Wireless Foundation](#) coordinates national programs that collect cell phones to help American communities.

Retailer and manufacturers programs: Retailers such as Best Buy, Office Depot, Radio Shack, and Target along with many cellular service providers and manufacturers accept cell phones for recycling. Learn more at [RethinkRecycling](#) and [call2recycle](#).

Government options: Hennepin County [drop-off facilities](#) in Bloomington and Brooklyn Park accept electronics, including cell phones, laptops and other mobile devices that contain memory.

Before reusing or recycling your phone, remember to remove your personal data and fully discharge the battery.

For more information on how to recycle cell phones and other electronics, call 612-348-3777 or visit <https://www.hennepin.us/green-disposal-guide/items/electronics>.