

Electronic Waste Collection Locations in Connecticut and Washington

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Issue

Describe the locations that may serve as electronic waste (e-waste) collector sites in Connecticut and Washington.

Summary

According to the [National Conference of State Legislatures](#), Connecticut and Washington are among 25 states with laws creating statewide e-waste recycling programs. Both programs use the extender producer responsibility (“EPR”) model, which requires product manufacturers to be responsible for the cost of collecting and recycling any of their eligible recyclable products. These include such things as cathode ray tube and flat panel televisions, computer monitors, desktop computers, laptops, and portable computers.

Connecticut’s law requires municipalities to provide for collecting electronic devices covered by the state’s e-waste recycling program. In Washington, state law allows the following locations to serve as e-waste collection sites, but does not require them all to do so: electronics recyclers and repair shops, recyclers of other commodities, reuse organizations, charities, retailers, and government recycling sites.

Connecticut restricts its e-waste recycling program to residential electronics, while Washington’s program allows for recycling e-waste from residents, small businesses, charities, and small governments.

Connecticut

Connecticut's e-waste law applies to residential electronics and requires manufacturers of covered devices to participate in (1) a private e-waste recycling program or (2) the statewide e-waste recycling program.

The statewide program involves municipalities providing for e-waste recycling on their own or through a regional authority. Each municipality or regional authority must (1) collect the e-waste from residents, (2) have it transported to an electronic recycler, and (3) inform residents of when and where e-waste is accepted. The law requires municipalities to prioritize convenience and accessibility when providing its e-waste collection and recycling opportunities.

By law, manufacturers must pay the reasonable costs of transporting and recycling the e-waste ([CGS § 22a-629 et seq.](#)).

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection provides the list of drop-off locations for residential e-waste on its [website](#).

Washington

Washington's e-waste law covers recycling electronic devices from residents, small businesses, charitable organizations, and small governments.

It requires each electronics manufacturer to participate in (1) a collection and recycling plan prepared by the state's materials management and financing authority (i.e., the "standard plan") or (2) an independent plan the manufacturer creates. Similar to Connecticut's program, manufacturers cover the collection, transport, and recycling costs.

The law requires e-waste collection sites to be located in both rural and urban areas, and in every county. There must be at least one collection site or alternative collection service (e.g., curbside collection) in each municipality with a population greater than 10,000. A collection site for a county may also serve as a municipal collection site.

E-waste collection sites must be reasonably convenient and available to all residents. They may include electronics recyclers and repair shops, recyclers of other commodities, reuse organizations, charities, retailers, government recycling sites, or other suitable locations.

Collectors must be registered and meet certain performance standards (e.g., staffing and notice requirements) ([Wash. Rev. Code § 70.95N.010 et seq.](#)).

The state's Department of Ecology maintains the [list](#) of registered collectors.

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