

**GREEN ORGANIZING ACTION TEAM:
“GOAT NOAT” FOR JULY by Cathy Hanson**

Electronic Recycling aka eCycling

If you're like me, you may have found that the change of season and longer daylight hours gave you an extra push to do some cleaning up and clearing out. I got my kayaks out of a friend's garage, hung them on my fence and wrapped them in a tarp, I cleaned out my shed, I went through my filing cabinets and sifted through a stack of boxes--and in some of those boxes were some old electronics.

What to do with the cell phones, computers, screens and more? The most environmentally friendly option for old electronics is to reuse—find a place that refurbishes and squeezes a few more years out of those old devices. What you don't want to do is put electronics in landfills—the toxic metal and flame retardants can cause environmental problems.

Here are some great resources for places that will refurbish and reuse— and there are recycling options listed here for more than just electronics.

Maryland State Government's Department of the Environment <http://mde.maryland.gov/Pages/index.aspx> is a terrific resource. Poke around their webpage and learn about programs, county and city projects, resources, composting (Food Scraps Management), a recycling sculpture contest, and more.

eCycling in Maryland

<http://mde.maryland.gov/programs/land/recyclingandoperationsprogram/pages/ecycling.aspx> will take you to a list of electronic manufacturers that have takeback programs and will recycle your electronics for free, and lists permanent collection sites and eCycling events.

Places who take electronics

<http://mde.maryland.gov/programs/LAND/RecyclingandOperationsprogram/Pages/ecycling2.aspx>
<http://www.mdrecycles.org/recycling-directory/?sec=electronics>

Another comprehensive resource for recycling is the Baltimore County's Reuse Directory http://resources.baltimorecountymd.gov/Documents/Public_Works/solidwastemanagement/reuse_directory.pdf

This brochure lists places from A-Z who will take your Art Supplies, Paint, Printer Cartridges, Sports Equipment, Tools, Toys and much more. Sample Entries in this directory include: Art Supplies (Baltimore Child Abuse Center, Helping Up Mission); Cell Phones (Family, Crisis Center, GRC Wireless Recycling, Lutheran Mission Society, The Salvation Army, Securis Baltimore, Turtle Wings). There's even a guitar exchange listed in this useful directory.

And finally, laptops may be donated to Tyler St. Clare who runs the Tololamos Foundation.

Tyler refurbishes old laptops for reuse by people in the Nicaraguan town where he served as a Peace Corps volunteer. Donations are tax deductible. [Tololamos Foundation](http://TololamosFoundation) and tyler@tololamos.org. You can give laptops to Gary Gillespie. He will get them to Tyler and get you a receipt.

