

## Cell Phone Recycling

Recycling your unwanted cell-phones is an important and easy action you can take to help protect our environment. Cell-phones and cell-phone batteries may contain hazardous substances such as Lead, Mercury, and others that enter the environment through landfills, incineration, or illegal dumping. According to the Wisconsin DNR, “These metals and toxic chemicals could pollute groundwater, surface water or the air when electronics are burned or, if they are buried in landfills, when landfill leachate is collected for treatment and the residual effluents are released into surface water or spread on land”

In addition, recycling cell-phones allows for the reuse of metals and other substances, many of which must originally be mined or manufactured. According to the US EPA, “Cell phones and accessories are made from valuable resources such as precious metals, copper, and plastics - all of which require energy to extract and manufacture. Recycling cell phones reduces greenhouse gas emissions, keeps valuable material out of landfills and incinerators, and conserves natural resources.”



Several locations throughout Oshkosh accept donated cell phones for recycling.

### Recycle Locations

The College of Education and Human Services (COEHS) Alumni Association Chapter at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh coordinates a free cell-phone recycling program in Oshkosh, and applies all proceeds generated from the recycling to education scholarships. To recycle your cell-phone and cell-phone battery, simply drop them off at one of the following locations:

- ALLTEL  
710 Murdock Ave
- ALLTEL  
410 Koeller Street
- NTD  
300 Koeller Street
- For UW Oshkosh students only:  
Each Campus Dorm has a student collection site
- Titan Central,  
Reeve Memorial Union  
748 Algoma Blvd
- Choice Bank (conciierge desk)  
2450 Witzel Ave
- Choice Bank (customer service)  
2201 Jackson St

If you have additional questions about the UW Oshkosh COEHS Alumni recycling program, please contact Jim at [coehsalumni@uwosh.edu](mailto:coehsalumni@uwosh.edu).

If your agency/business in Oshkosh currently accepts cell-phones and accessories as part of a recycling program, please notify Justin at [justin\\_mitchell1@yahoo.com](mailto:justin_mitchell1@yahoo.com).

## **Additional cell-phone recycling information:**

*The following are external links*

DNR Electronic Waste Management: <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/ewaste/>

E-Waste Educator's Guide (Grades 6-8):

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eeek/teacher/pdf/recycle/4-8/E-waste1.pdf>

Recycling Your Phone: Its an Easy Call EPA PDF Fact Sheet:

<http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/partnerships/plugin/cellphone/pdf/cell-fs.pdf>

Special thank you to COEHS Alumni Anette Laurie and Jim Hoffman for providing information on the COEHS Alumni cell-phone recycling program. Cell Phone Photo: Justin Mitchell; Cell Phone Recycling handout developed by Justin Mitchell, Sustainable Oshkosh Board member, December, 2008