



EPA's Pass It On Week: April 16 – 23, 2006

PASS ON Those Unwanted Computers!

Help Your Community and the Environment!

An estimated 196 million to 230 million computers are in use in the United States today, each designed to last more than a decade. Yet technology is advancing so rapidly that users often replace their computers just three or four years after buying them. Often people either store or throw out their old computers, not realizing that they still have a useful life and could benefit others. In addition, storing computers decreases their reuse value dramatically. By throwing out computers, valuable materials which could be used to make new products are wasted.

Keep usable computers operational by donating them to others. Reusing old computers gives people access to technology who might not otherwise be able to afford it, helps use materials wisely, and keeps computers and other electronic equipment out of landfills—all helping to protect the environment.

What can you do?

- Plan a computer collection event in your local community or within your company.
- Donate your unused computer to an existing reuse-focused event or organization

When?

Any time during EPA's "Pass It On Week," which is April 16 - 23, 2006. Earth Day is April 22.

How?

Go to <www.epa.gov/passiton> to learn how you can get involved!

- Become a computer donor and get linked up with existing reuse-focused events and organizations. Check out what events our Plug-In To eCycling partners have planned, and become involved!
- Plan a computer collection event in your local community or within your company. Check out the Plug-In To eCycling tool kit on collection planning, and contact organizations to pick up your donations and make sure they get reused!
- Support the Computer Reuse and Recycling Coalition's 100 Percent Day! This effort aims to collect 100,000 computers throughout the United States on Earth Day. If you schedule an event for April 21 or 22, go to <www.100percentday.org> to find out how to make your activities count.
- Learn more about donating, erasing data from your hard drive, and understanding who might receive donated computers with tools like "Do the PC Thing" brochure and Plug-In's Pass It On video featuring Administrator Stephen Johnson and five company leaders from Plug-In industry partners. Also, learn what to do if the donated equipment is not suitable for reuse, and how computers can be safely recycled.

Pass It On!

