



**How to use this list of questions.** This represents a broad list of questions to ask electronics recyclers. Some recyclers refurbish equipment for reuse, others disassemble the equipment for materials recovery, others act as a broker to arrange delivery of unwanted electronics to other recyclers, and some offer more than one of these services.

### ***The Basics***

Does the recycler accept the type of electronic equipment that you would like to recycle? Be ready to explain what you have and whether it works.

What are the recycler's fees for taking used electronic equipment? Will they accept old electronic equipment for free?

Can the recycler help you identify any specialty electronics you may have with greater value?

Will they pick it up or will you be asked to drop it off?

Have you deleted any sensitive or personal data (especially financial & health-related) off the hard drive? Or can the recycler provide data destruction services for you?

### ***How Your Old Equipment is Managed by the Recycler***

*These questions are important because of concerns about environmentally risky practices or failure to comply with applicable waste disposal regulations. Recyclers frequently send electronic equipment or various components to secondary recyclers for further processing. Your recycler should know how their secondary recyclers are managing these materials and be able to answer these questions even though they may not be doing the work themselves. Be wary of recyclers that can't or won't answer these types of questions.*

Can the recycler provide information on how they manage end-of-life electronic equipment? What percentage will be reused, refurbished, or disassembled for materials recovery?

Where will the equipment be processed? Does this recycler process the equipment or do they send it somewhere else for processing?

Are working computer or television monitors reused or resold?

Are any components sent for disposal as solid waste? If so, what and where?

### ***For Non-Profit Reuse Organizations Taking Scrap Electronics***

*Non-profit reuse organizations may take electronic equipment in order to refurbish it and distribute it to people in need. Most restrict the type and age of equipment they accept in order to maximize the likelihood of being able to reuse it. In return, non-profits often will not charge a fee to take used electronic equipment meeting their needs.*

Where are the refurbished units redistributed (what is the non-profit's mission)?

How does the organization handle unusable equipment that cannot be refurbished?

Can they provide a receipt for your donation for tax purposes?

### ***For More Information***

Contact the Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division Customer Technical Assistance line at 303-692-3320 or 888-569-1831 ext. 3320 toll-free. You may also email your questions to [comments.hmwmd@state.co.us](mailto:comments.hmwmd@state.co.us).