

Tuesday TechTip:

UNLESS.

*Unless someone like you,
cares a whole awful lot,
nothing's going to get better.*

It's not.

~The Once-ler from Dr. Seuss's The Lorax

The facts:

As reported by Cnet News, “more than 3 million tons of e-waste wind up in landfills each year, according to the EPA. With the dawn of digital television, Americans will toss more than 80 million old TVs within the next two years, according Electronic Recyclers.” Each CRT (cathode ray tube) TV or computer monitor can contain up to four pounds of lead.

Do your part!

In a world full of electronic gadgets and gizmos, it may seem quite overwhelming to try to reduce your carbon footprint. Have no fear! You may help multiple ways

- Cut power to devices not being used! Contrary to popular belief, it does not take more energy to turn your computer off/on then to leave on. At the end of the day, turn your computer off or at the very least turn your monitor (or monitors) and other peripherals such as printers, scanners, copiers, etc off.
- Dispose of electronics properly! Be sure to either donate your old electronics to a charity of your choice, an elementary school, or take to one of our local recyclers. A little adds up! You may be surprised how appreciative some organizations are of old cell phones, computers, etc. Or, how much money you may make from reselling movies, games or Cds.
- Work resourcefully! A CD typically holds approximately 700mb of information. Think twice, before burning a CD with only one file of say 100mb. Try to print as resourcefully as possibly by duplex printing, reducing print size (as much as possible while still comfortably being able to read), or multiple pages per sheet.

Resources

There are many resources available on the Internet regarding green technology. Below is just a snapshot of a few helpful links:

- [Earth 911](#): A central point of information regarding recycling and product stewardship. Check out their new initiative, “[Donate cell phones to Plant Trees](#)”.



- [eCycle Missouri](#): A list of where to recycle electronics/computers in Missouri as provided by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.
- [Find a recycling or re-use location near you!](#) Simply enter what you are disposing of and your location (anywhere in the US) to find re-use or recycling centers near you!
- [Greener Choices](#) by Consumer Reports: Products for a Better Planet offers many green buying guides for electronics.
- [GreenDisk](#): A place to responsibly and securely dispose of computer-related waste, such as CDs, DVDs, accessories, etc.

The future:

Imagine a world of electronics powered by the sun. New green gadgets offer intriguing possibilities. Check out a few below:

- [Voltaic Backpack](#)
- [Solio Classic](#)
- [Notepower Solar Laptop Charger](#)

*A special thank you to all who recycle
and for Columbia College's recycling program!*
Happy Earth Day!

For additional tips, check out the Technology Solutions Center self-service portal at <http://help.ccis.edu>