



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT
BUREAU OF RECYCLING & HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT
401 East State Street

P.O. Box 420, Mail Code 401-02C
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0402
Tel. (609) 984-3438 • Fax (609) 777-1951/984-0565
www.nj.gov/dep/dshw/recycling/index.html

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

SHAWN M. LATOURETTE
Commissioner

E-Waste Frequently Asked Questions

January 18, 2024

1. **Question:** How can I contact the NJDEP (DEP) E-waste Unit?

Answer: Email the E-waste Unit at ecycle@dep.nj.gov or call 609-984-3438 with any questions or concerns.

2. **Question:** What is a ‘covered electronic device’ as defined by the Electronic Waste Management Act (E-Waste Law)?

Answer: The E-Waste Law defines a covered electronic device (CED) as, “a desktop or personal computer, computer monitor, portable computer, desktop printer, desktop fax machine, or television sold to a consumer.”

3. **Question:** Are tablets considered CEDs?

Answer: Yes, a tablet is considered a portable computer, and is a CED.

4. **Question:** What is a “Consumer” as defined by the E-Waste Law?

Answer: The E-Waste Law defines ‘consumer’ as, “a person, State entity, school district, or local government unit who purchases a covered electronic device in a transaction that is a retail sale.” ‘Consumer’ does not include any business concern purchasing covered electronic devices.

5. **Question:** Where can I recycle my electronics?

Answer: The DEP E-waste Unit publishes a list of collection sites on its website each year where New Jersey (NJ) consumers can drop off their CEDs for free. Please note that some sites may have restrictions. The current collection site list can be found at:

<https://www.nj.gov/dep/dshw/ewaste/collectionsites.pdf>

6. **Question:** What if my device is too heavy, or I am not able to bring it to a collection site?

Answer: For CEDs that weigh 50 pounds or more, or televisions with screens larger than 40 inches diagonally, the following offer home pick-up services:

- *ERI: 1-800-572-5300*
- *MRM: 1-888-769-0149*
- *RLGA: 1-866-337-1078*
- *LG: 1-866-372-2928 or email info@lgrecyclingprogram.com*
- *The Salvation Army: 1-800-SA-TRUCK*
- *OEMRS: 1-866-278-8056 or email steve@oemrecyclingsolutions.com*
- *SIMS: 1-866-922-8252*
- *Dynamic Lifecycle Solutions: 1-877-781-4030*

7. **Question:** Why can't I throw my e-waste in the garbage?

Answer: The E-Waste Law includes a ban on the disposal of CEDs, which are desktop or personal computers, computer monitors, portable computers, desktop printers, desktop fax machines, or televisions sold to a consumer.

8. **Question:** What can I do with other types of electronic devices that are not covered by the law, such as a microwave or DVD player that no longer works or I no longer use?

Answer: Non-CEDs are not mandated for recycling under the law, however DEP encourages reuse and recycling whenever possible. A NJ consumer may either contact its local municipality, email the E-waste Unit at ecycle@dep.nj.gov, or call 609-984-3438 with any questions or concerns.

9. **Question:** I am a consumer. Are collection sites allowed to charge me for recycling my CEDs?

Answer: Collection sites operating under an approved manufacturer's plan are not allowed to charge consumers for recycling CEDs. For a list of collection sites in your area, please visit: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/dshw/ewaste/collectionsites.pdf>

10. **Question:** When are manufacturers required to register with the DEP?

Answer: Registration is required for manufacturers of CEDs offered for sale for delivery in NJ, on or before January 1, annually. Any manufacturer that has not previously filed a registration shall file a registration with the DEP within 30 days of receiving notification of a market share. More information on manufacturer registration can be found at:

<https://www.nj.gov/dep/dshw/ewaste/manufacturers.html>



11. **Question:** What is the source of data DEP uses to estimate market share?

Answer: DEP purchases market share data from Circana (formerly the NPD Group) and the International Data Group (IDC) through the Electronic Recycling Coordination Clearinghouse.

12. **Question:** Does DEP anticipate adjusting manufacturer's estimated-market-share-in-weight? How will estimated-market-share-in-weight be determined?

Answer: DEP bases the estimated-market-share-in-weight on the best available data purchased from Circana and IDC through the Electronics Recycling Coordination Clearinghouse. DEP has the option of adjusting the estimated-market-share-in-weight at the end of the program year under certain circumstances based on the actual weight collected for the year. This is known as the actual-market-share-in-weight. DEP does not anticipate adjusting manufacturer's estimated-market-share-in-weight.

13. **Question:** If I manufacture more than one type of CED, will I receive a market share and estimated-market-share-in-weight for each CED type?

Answer: DEP apportions market share percentage by CED type. Market share percentages by type are then added together to get the manufacturer's overall market share and estimated-market-share-in-weight.

14. **Question:** What are the reporting requirements for regulated entities (collection sites, local government units, manufacturers, authorized recyclers)?

Answer: Semiannual reports are required for the following entities:

- *The operator of every collection location identified in a manufacturer's plan*
- *Any local government unit that collects CEDs*
- *Any authorized recycler*
- *Manufacturers of CEDs*

Required information shall be submitted on forms that DEP will provide electronically via email. Reports for the January to June reporting period are due August 1st, and reports for the July to December reporting period are due February 1st each year.



15. **Question:** Which manufacturers are required to report?

Answer: Only manufacturers that received an estimated-market-share-in-weight obligation for a program year are required to submit semiannual reports.

16. **Question:** If a manufacturer collects/recycles only a portion of their actual-market-share-in-weight, are they really assessed a \$0.50 per pound noncompliance fee on 100% of their actual-market-share-in-weight?

Answer: If the noncompliance fee is assessed, yes, it would be assessed on a manufacturer's entire market-share-in-weight. Additionally, enforcement actions, penalties, and fees may be assessed.

17. **Question:** Can you please describe the E-waste Credit system?

Answer: Once DEP assigns a manufacturer its estimated-market-share-in-weight obligation (obligation) for a program year, the manufacturer must implement its approved collection plan for that entire program year. At the end of the year, based on the actual amount/pounds of CEDs collected and recycled in NJ, each manufacturer's obligation issued earlier may be revised based on the respective market share percentages to determine a manufacturer's actual-market-share-in-weight. A manufacturer will be issued 1 credit for each pound of CED weight that exceeded its respective obligation. Credits in any program year can be applied only to the next program year's obligation (as reviewed and approved by DEP), up to 25% of that year's obligation. A manufacturer that was unsuccessful in collecting its full obligation, called a shortfall, can either purchase credits from other manufacturers that exceeded their obligation, buy weight from entities that collected outside the manufacturer's collection system, or pay a noncompliance fee as provided by the Statute. The DEP will notify manufacturers of their available credits or shortfall and will open a 30-day credit trading period during which manufacturers may sell or purchase credits and submit a Credit Trading Report Form.

18. **Question:** Are recyclers, working on behalf of manufacturers, required to register to be considered an authorized recycler?

Answer: All recyclers accepting CEDs from NJ consumers must register as an Authorized Recycler. Registration renewal is required annually thereafter by January 1.



19. Question: Will all registered recyclers be considered as authorized recyclers?

Answer: Only registered recyclers who were issued an R2 or e-Stewards certification approval, are compliant with all local, state, and federal laws, and are included in an approved manufacturer collection plan will be considered as authorized recyclers.

20. Question: How do I register as an authorized recycler?

Answer: Authorized recyclers must submit an Electronics Authorized Recycler Registration form found on the DEP website here:
<https://www.nj.gov/dep/dshw/ewaste/authrecyclerform.pdf>

Current R2 or eSteward certifications and the registration fee must also be received by the DEP before registration is considered complete.

21. Question: I am an electronics recycler located in another state. What steps do I need to take to become an authorized recycler in NJ?

Answer: Recyclers located outside of NJ are required to submit a registration form and fee and a copy of its R2 or eStewards certification approval, be compliant with all local, state, and federal laws, and be part of an approved manufacturer's collection plan to recycle CEDS from NJ consumers.

22. Question: Can a broker for E-waste be an authorized recycler?

Answer: A broker is considered an authorized recycler if the broker meets the definition of an authorized recycler in accordance with C13:1E-99.95. All subcontractors that recycle and are used by the broker must be registered as authorized recyclers.

23. Question: Can an authorized recycler or manufacturer assess fees or impose requirements on collection sites in connection with collecting CEDs pursuant to a manufacturer's collection plan?

Answer: The E-Waste Law requires manufacturers to finance and implement the electronic waste recycling system in NJ. Manufacturers and authorized recyclers are prohibited from imposing any other recycling related requirements or costs on collection sites that collect CEDs from NJ consumers. Operators of collection sites should not otherwise be incurring charges or providing services at collection sites beyond the requirements for universal waste handlers. (See link below).
<http://www.nj.gov/dep/dshw/lrm/uwaste/uwelectr.htm>



24. Question: Are all collection sites in a manufacturer's plan required to accept all types of CEDs?

Answer: During review of manufacturer collection plans, if DEP determines that the plans collectively provide sufficient, convenient, and adequate collection locations for all CED types in each county, DEP may allow supplemental sites that do not accept all types of CEDs.

25. Question: Does every collection site have to accept from all consumers including schools, small business, government entities, as well as residents?

Answer: No, they do not. The E-Waste Rule (N.J.A.C. 7:26A-13.6(a)1) states that a listing of any limitations imposed on the quantity and type of material to be accepted at a collection site must be included in a collection plan. Additionally, each NJ consumer must have access to a collection site in their county. Manufacturers must submit plans to the DEP that collectively provide sufficient, convenient, and adequate collection of all types of CEDs for all types of consumers.

26. Question: I am a collection site in NJ, how can I be reimbursed?

Answer: Under the manufacturer program to collect, transport, and recycle CEDs, the manufacturers are responsible to bear all costs incurred by a collection site for collection, storage, and handling of CEDs. The DEP is not responsible for reimbursing any costs incurred by collection sites. Therefore, to recover their costs, collection sites must ensure that they are included in a manufacturer's plan.

27. Question: Does the DEP intend to develop a reimbursement system for weight recycled outside of approved manufacturer collection plans?

Answer: The DEP is not responsible for reimbursing any costs incurred by collection sites. However, if an independent collection site wants to sell its CEDs to a manufacturer that failed to collect its market-share-in-weight, the collection site must be able to provide verifiable documentation that it collected the CEDs for free from NJ consumers.

28. Question: I am a local government unit listed in a manufacturer's plan. Why am I being charged for collecting CEDs by my authorized recycler?

Answer: Manufacturers and authorized recyclers are prohibited from imposing any costs on collection sites that are listed in approved manufacturer plans and that collect CEDs from consumers. Local government units should contact the DEP's E-waste Unit to report any such charges that are imposed by authorized recyclers.



29. Question: I am a local government unit NOT covered by a manufacturer's plan; how do I become a collection site under a manufacturer's plan?

Answer: If you are a local government unit that wants to collect covered electronic devices and are not currently covered by a manufacturer's plan, please contact the DEP's E-waste Unit to find out your options. E-waste staff will work with you to identify manufacturers operating collection sites in your area and will provide you with necessary manufacturers' contact information for possible inclusion as a collection site in those manufacturers' plans.

30. Question: If a manufacturer rejects CEDs at a collection site because they originated from outside NJ, will that weight be excluded from DEP's total CED weight collected for the program year?

Answer: Yes, DEP will exclude that weight from the totals collected in the program year. Collection sites should have controls in place to ensure that CEDs collected at their sites originate from NJ consumers only.

