

# Saskatchewan Waste Electronic Equipment Program



The Saskatchewan Waste Electronic Equipment Program – or SWEEP – is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to managing the provincial electronic equipment collection and recycling program. In 2007, the consumer electronic manufacturers and retailers implemented this program to meet their obligations under The Waste Electronic Equipment Regulations.



SWEEP is a stewardship program, with representatives from retailers, distributors, manufacturers, municipalities and the Ministry of Environment and is the only waste electronics product management program that has been approved by the Saskatchewan government.

## ***Its Purpose***

Each year in Saskatchewan, hundreds of thousands of computers, monitors and televisions become waste. Rapid advances in technology and an expanding demand for new functions accelerate the generation of “old” electronic equipment. The result is a growing challenge for municipal landfill operators, as they search for ways to properly dispose of this equipment. To meet this challenge, a waste electronic equipment collection and recycling program was developed.

## ***How to Recycle***

The program uses the 71 SARCAN Recycling Depots. Consumers can drop off their old or unwanted computer equipment and televisions at no charge. The collected equipment is reused where possible or disassembled, the contaminants removed and dealt with properly, and all other components recycled in an environmentally-sound manner.



Prior to taking your electronic equipment to SARCAN, we encourage you to consider options described at: [www.sweepit.ca](http://www.sweepit.ca) (click on the “Recycling Electronics” link).

A complete listing of computer devices, printers, monitors and televisions accepted by the program can be found at the following link: [www.sweepit.ca](http://www.sweepit.ca).

## ***How the Program Works***

In order to manufacture, import, sell or distribute computer equipment or televisions in Saskatchewan, sellers must be part of the SWEEP take-back and recycling program.

The SWEEP Program is funded through the purchase of new designated electronic equipment. Consumers pay a non-refundable Environmental Handling Fee to electronics retailers, who in turn remit these fees directly to SWEEP. The fees are used to cover SWEEP’s program costs, such as transportation, handling and processing/recycling of the equipment, as well as the development of consumer education material.



Saskatchewan  
Ministry of  
Environment

[www.environment.gov.sk.ca](http://www.environment.gov.sk.ca)

The designated electronic equipment Environmental Handling Fees (EHF) consumers pay is:

<b>Computer Equipment</b>	<b>EHFs</b>	<b>Television</b>	<b>EHFs</b>
Desktop computers	\$10.00	18" or less	\$15.00
Notebook computers	\$5.00	19" to 29"	\$25.00
Computer monitors	\$12.00	30" to 45"	\$30.00
Desktop printers	\$ 8.00	45" and up	\$45.00

### ***Accomplishments***

In the first nine months of operation, SWEEP collected over 1,753 tonnes (more than 3.8 million pounds) of waste electronics. This means approximately 179,400 pieces of end-of-life electronic equipment have been diverted from Saskatchewan landfills. SWEEP will continue to work with the electronic industry and SARCAN to promote and educate consumers regarding the reuse and recycling of their electronic equipment.

### ***Interesting Fact***

Between February 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008, the weight of electronics collected from Saskatchewan residents was equivalent to the weight of 318 elephants.



**For more information about SWEEP,  
visit [www.sweepit.ca](http://www.sweepit.ca) or call 1-888-350-6555.**