



E-Cycle Wisconsin

Guidance on Reporting EEDs Collected and Recycled over Program Year Transitions

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Purpose

This guidance clarifies how electronics should be counted and reported under s. 287.17, Wis. Stats., the state's electronics recycling law, when they are collected or recycled near the end or beginning of a program year.

Background

A person wishing to operate as an electronics recycler or collector under the E-Cycle Wisconsin program must register and report annually with the Department of Natural Resources. As part of the annual report, collectors and recyclers must provide the weight of eligible electronic devices (EEDs) collected or recycled as part of E-Cycle Wisconsin during the previous program year.

E-Cycle Wisconsin program years run from July 1 to June 30 (the same as the state's fiscal year). Each electronics manufacturer registered with the program has a specific recycling target to meet during that program year. If the manufacturer recycles more than that target, it can receive credits to carry over into future years. If it falls short of its target, it must pay shortfall fees. Therefore, it is very important that everyone involved use an accurate and consistent method to track the number of pounds of EEDs recycled statewide on behalf of manufacturers during a given program year.

E-Cycle Wisconsin Definitions

Eligible electronic devices (EEDs) include computer peripherals, fax machines, DVD players, VCRs and CEDs. CEDs include consumer computers (desktop/laptop/netbook/tablet); consumer printers; and televisions and computer monitors with displays at least 7" in the longest diagonal direction.

A **collector** accepts EEDs from Wisconsin households, K-12 public schools or Parental Choice Program schools and delivers or arranges for the delivery of the EEDs to a recycler.

A **recycler** accepts EEDs from Wisconsin households, covered schools or collectors for the purpose of recycling. **Recycling** means preparing EEDs for use in manufacturing processes or for recovery of useable materials and delivering the materials for use.

For complete definitions, see s. 287.17(1), Wis. Stats.

Reporting Collected EEDs

EEDs collected from Wisconsin households, K-12 public schools and Parental Choice Program schools must be reported for the **program year in which they were collected**. That is, any EEDs received from a household or covered school—either at a collection site or through direct pick-up—between July 1 and June 30 of program year X must be reported for that program year, even if the devices are not delivered to a registered recycler until after July 1 of the next program year.

EEDs collected during different program years should be kept separate until they can be weighed. Containers and pallets should be clearly labeled with the dates during which the electronics were collected. The collector should work with its recycler to ensure loads are picked up and weighed early in July so that the collector can report totals accurately on the annual report due each Aug. 1.

Reporting Recycled EEDs

Recyclers should report weights of EEDs based on the **program year in which they received (took possession of) the electronics**. That is, if a load was received from a collector by June 30 of program year X, the weight of those EEDs should be counted in the program year X totals. If a recycler receives a load of electronics on or after July 1 of program year Y, it should count the weight of those EEDs toward the program year Y total, regardless of whether some or all of the electronics were actually collected from the public during program year X.

This may mean that a collector counts the weight of a TV under program year X, while the recycler counts the weight of the same TV under program year Y. Since a manufacturer's recycling target is based on what is actually recycled during a given program year, the weight of that TV would count toward the manufacturer's program year Y target.

Recyclers should keep in mind that their report for a previous program year is due by Aug. 1, together with the annual registration (for example, the report for program year 10, which ended June 30, 2019, was due by Aug. 1, 2019). Therefore, it is important that EEDs received through June 30 be processed quickly so accurate totals may be included in the report. EEDs, including components such as cathode ray tubes that are stored for extended periods of time are not eligible for manufacturer credit.

More information

For more information on E-Cycle Wisconsin, visit dnr.wi.gov and search “ecycle.”



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