



E-Cycle Wisconsin Guidance on Definitions of Covered Devices

PUB-WA-1474 2016

Purpose

This guidance provides additional explanations and clarifications of the device definitions included in the state's electronics recycling law. The definitions are found in s. 287.17(1), Wis. Stats.

Background

The law defines two categories of affected devices: **covered electronic devices (CEDs)** and **eligible electronic devices (EEDs)**. The only manufacturers affected by the law are those that sell **CEDs** to Wisconsin households, K-12 public schools or Parental Choice Program schools. The amount a manufacturer must recycle during a given program year is based on the weight of CEDs sold to those groups during a specified period.

EEDs include all of the CEDs, plus some additional electronics. This is the group of devices households and covered schools can recycle under E-Cycle Wisconsin. Manufacturers may receive credit toward their annual targets for recycling any EEDs of any brand.

Finally, the law contains a list of devices **banned from disposal in Wisconsin landfills and incinerators**. This list includes all EEDs plus cell phones. See the box at right for the list of devices banned from disposal.

E-Cycle Wisconsin disposal bans

- Consumer computers (desktop, laptop, netbook and tablet)
- Consumer printers (desktop-style printers, printer-fax-copier-scanner combinations and 3-D printers)
- Consumer video display devices (televisions, computer monitors, e-readers)
- Computer peripherals (mice, keyboards, scanners, etc.)
- Fax machines
- DVD players
- VCRs
- Digital video players/recorders
- Cell phones

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

Definitions of covered electronic devices

CEDs include computers; desktop-style printers and video display devices with a screen of at least 7" in the longest diagonal direction.

Consumer computer

"Consumer computer" means a high-speed data processing device for performing logical, arithmetic, or storage functions that is marketed by the manufacturer for use by households or schools. Computers include:

- traditional, desktop-style computers (tower or box) without a monitor, including miniPCs;
- "all-in-one" desktop-style computers where the screen is integrated with the processor;
- laptop/notebook/netbook computers;
- tablet computers
- servers used by a household or covered school; and
- thin clients used by a household or covered school.

"Consumer computer" does **not** include:

- an automated typewriter or typesetter; or
- a portable hand-held calculator or device, such as a mobile phone or PDA; or
- a digital camera.

Consumer printer

"Consumer printer" means one of the following that is marketed by the manufacturer for use by households or schools:

- A desktop printer, including inkjet and laser printers that can be placed on a work surface.
- A device that prints and has other functions, such as copying, scanning, or sending facsimiles, and that is designed to be placed on a work surface.

- A 3-D printer that is marketed to households or schools.

“Consumer printer” does **not** include a calculator with printing capabilities, a label maker or a photograph-only printer.

Consumer video display device

“Consumer video display device” means a **television, computer monitor or e-reader** with a screen that is at least 7 inches in its longest diagonal measurement and that is marketed by the manufacturer for use by households or schools.

Computer monitor

“Computer monitor” means an electronic device that is a cathode ray tube or flat panel display primarily intended to display information from a consumer computer or the Internet.

Computer monitors include:

- CRT or flat-panel monitors used with a desktop computer; and
- e-readers or other portable devices with screens of at least 7 inches in the longest diagonal direction that display information from the Internet or a processor.

At this time, the Department of Natural Resources has determined that the following are NOT computer monitors:

- Digital photo frames
- Portable DVD players

Television

“Television” means an electronic device, with a cathode ray tube or flat panel display, primarily intended to receive video programming via broadcast, cable, or satellite transmission or to receive video images from surveillance or similar cameras.

All types of televisions with a screen of at least 7 inches in the longest diagonal direction are CEDs, including older box-style, CRT models; LCD displays; LED/OLED displays; plasma and rear projection.

The following are **not** considered consumer video display devices under the law:

- A television or computer monitor that is part of a motor vehicle and that is incorporated into the motor vehicle by, or for, a motor vehicle manufacturer or a franchised motor vehicle dealer (i.e., a computer monitor or television that was built into the vehicle *before it was purchased*).
- A television or computer monitor contained within a clothes washer, clothes dryer, refrigerator, freezer, microwave oven, conventional oven or stove, dishwasher, room air conditioner, dehumidifier, or air purifier.
- Any video display device that is not marketed for use by households or schools (such as displays in equipment only used in specific industrial/commercial settings).

Definitions of eligible electronic devices

EEDs include all of the CEDs along with a number of related devices. Specifically, EEDs are:

- consumer computers;
- consumer printers;
- consumer video display devices;
- computer peripherals;
- fax machines;
- DVD players;
- VCRs; and
- digital video recorders/players.

For definitions of consumer computers, printers and video display devices, see above.

Computer peripheral

“Computer peripheral” means a keyboard or any other device, other than a consumer printer, that is sold exclusively for external use with a consumer computer and that provides input into or output from a consumer computer.

Examples include:

- external CD/DVD drives;
- external hard drives/backup drives;
- external modems;
- flash drives/memory sticks for use with computers;
- game controllers (joysticks, etc.) used with a computer;
- keyboards;
- mice;
- projectors (LCD, LED, etc.) used with a consumer computer;
- scanners;
- speakers used with a computer; and
- webcams or similar cameras specifically for a computer.

Landfill and incineration ban definitions

The bans cover all EEDs, plus telephones with a video display (see the box at the beginning of this document for a complete list).

The law does not define the term “telephone with a video display.” The DNR has interpreted this to mean cellular/mobile phones, including smartphones. At this point the definition does **not** include corded or cordless phones (phones that plug in to a phone jack in the wall).



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PUB-WA-1474 2016

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Pursuant to ch. 227, Wis. Stats., the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has finalized and hereby certifies the following guidance document.

DOCUMENT ID

WA-19-1474-C

DOCUMENT TITLE

E-Cycle Wisconsin: Guidance on Definitions of Covered Devices

PROGRAM/BUREAU

Waste and Materials Management

STATUTORY AUTHORITY OR LEGAL CITATION

Ch. 287, Wis. Stats.

DATE SENT TO LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU (FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS)

September 23, 2019

DATE FINALIZED

October 16, 2019

DNR CERTIFICATION

I have reviewed this guidance document or proposed guidance document and I certify that it complies with sections 227.10 and 227.11 of the Wisconsin Statutes. I further certify that the guidance document or proposed guidance document contains no standard, requirement, or threshold that is not explicitly required or explicitly permitted by a statute or a rule that has been lawfully promulgated. I further certify that the guidance document or proposed guidance document contains no standard, requirement, or threshold that is more restrictive than a standard, requirement, or threshold contained in the Wisconsin Statutes.

October 16, 2019

Signature

Date