



Megan Fitzpatrick  
Owner  
New Mexico  
Computer  
Recyclers

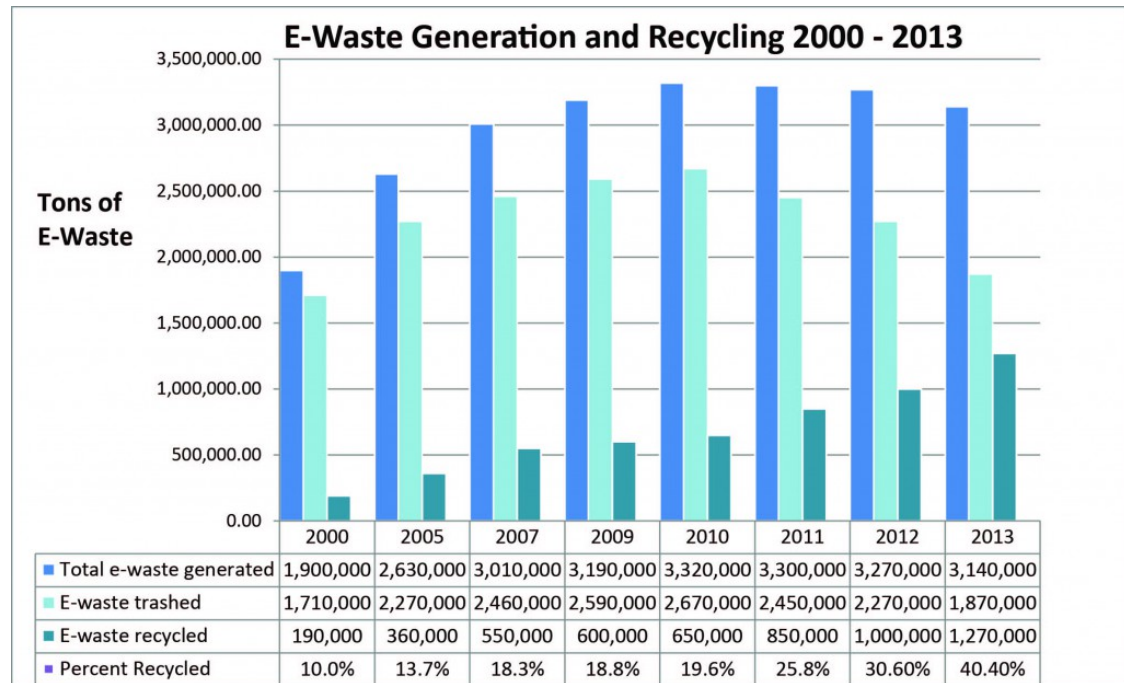
# e-Waste Recycling

# What is considered e-Waste?

- The term "e-waste" is loosely applied to consumer and business electronic equipment that is near or at the end of its useful life. The term is malleable, does it include microwaves and other small appliances? Yes and no.
- One of the fastest growing waste streams worldwide:
  - Americans on average, own 24 electronic products per household.
  - Electronics sales in the US are greater than \$206 Billion
  - EPA suggested 2.4 million tons of electronics were disposed of in 2012, up 120% from 1999.
  - My business alone, last year, recycled 800,000lbs of electronics

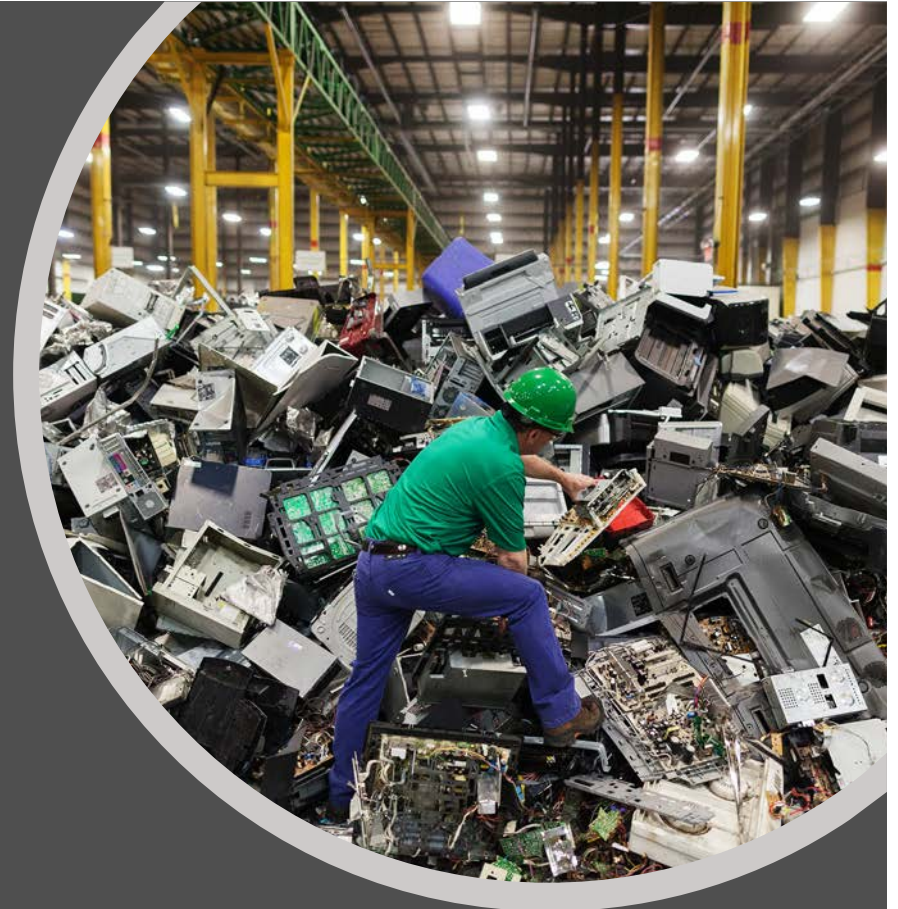


# EPA Data



# How is e-Waste Recycled?

- Refurbish/repurpose
- Recycle: break down equipment into categories
  - All circuit boards
  - Wire
  - Networking/telecom
  - Server
  - Routers/modems
  - Miscellaneous electronics
  - RAM/Memory
  - Batteries: different classifications



# What is Recyclable?

- Just about anything with a plug with a few exceptions:
  - TVs of any kind (market dictates)
  - Microwaves (radiation)
  - Vacuums
  - CRT monitors (lead and mercury content)
  - Keyboards/mice (items with a high plastic content)
- What happens to non-recyclable material? Landfill.....
  - China's Green Fence and imposing tariffs



# Benefits of e-Waste Recycling



**ELECTRONIC  
RECYCLING**

- Natural resources are conserved
- Air and water pollution caused by hazardous disposal is avoided
- Creates jobs
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions caused by manufacturing new products
  - the production of one desktop computer takes at least 530 pounds of fossil fuels, 48 pounds of chemicals, and 1.5 tons of water

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) calculates that over **60** million metric tons of electronic waste enters various landfills each year.



## Industry Standards

- Relatively new market
- Mostly self governance-voluntary accreditations exist, but costly
- Selling to underdeveloped countries- \$ over morality
- State legislation and accountability
  - California has the most stringent standards: no TVs or CRTs are allowed

# Challenges in the e-Waste market.

- China: was the leading importer of e-Waste, that changed 4 years ago.
- Fluctuating markets: e-Waste is a commodity like everything else- the markets fluctuate, which hinders your bottom line.
- Lack of public and private education.
- Manufactures want you to buy more!!
- Harmful chemicals
- Lack of Industry Standards
- Non-recyclable material- plastics!!





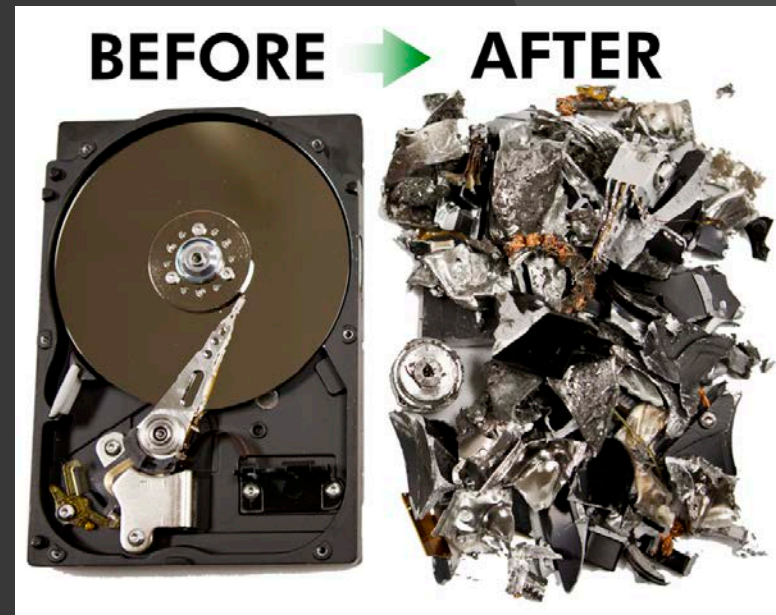
# Solutions to Challenges

- Cannot rely upon other countries to solve our waste problem
- Education
- Self governance within the industry
- Placing the onus on manufacturers: CRTs, TVs, etc.
- Local governments and municipalities to partner with e-Waste Recyclers



# Personal data

- Servers, laptops, some copiers, computers, DVR's, etc contain personal data
  - Potential for identity theft is huge
  - Degaussing: HIPPA
  - Hard Drive Shredding
  - Personal, business, governments, hospitals, school districts
  - Data retention devices constantly evolving- must know what you're looking for



Megan  
Fitzpatrick



New Mexico

**COMPUTER  
RECYCLERS**

**Data Destruction** is Our Priority