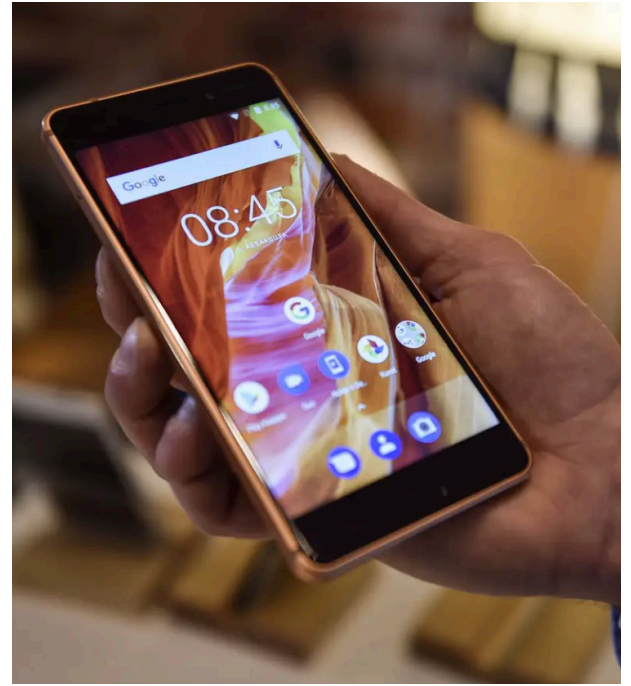




ways to reduce waste at home: proper e-waste disposal



In the United States as well as many other developed nations, e-waste is a major issue. E-waste can be defined as the used electronics, nearing the end of their useful life, that are disposed of, donated or given to a recycler. This includes products such as computers, phones, speakers, laptops, batteries, televisions, and GPS devices, all of which are disposed of at increased rates in this age of technology.

- ▶ EPA reports claim that over 112,000 computers are disposed of each day, meaning about 41.1 million each year
- ▶ 20 million televisions are thrown away each year
- ▶ in the United States alone we disposed of more than 100 million cell phones each year

Overall, only 13% of all our electronic waste is disposed and recycled properly. Most of it is shipped to developing countries for them to manage. If these products are not disposed of accordingly there is a high risk of the dangerous chemicals these electronics contain leaking into nearby air, soil, and water. These toxic chemicals such as lead, arsenic, and mercury can all cause a number of health issues in the brain, heart, liver, and kidneys. While what happens to the electronics long term is not necessarily within our control, we can make sure to dispose of old products at certified e-waste recycling plants and invest in more durable, rechargeable alternatives. No country deserves the consequences of e-waste.

<https://www.moneycrashers.com/electronic-e-waste-recycling-disposal-facts/>

<https://www.epa.gov/international-cooperation/cleaning-electronic-waste-e-waste>

<https://elytus.com/blog/e-waste-and-its-negative-effects-on-the-environment.html#:~:text=As%20mentioned%2C%20electronic%20waste%20contains,kidney%20and%20skletal%20system%20damage.>

images:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbes-personal-shopper/2020/08/03/the-best-deals-on-laptops-save-hundreds-on-surface-laptops--2-in-1s/?sh=74ebda4556a9>

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