

E-Waste Recycling Educator Guide

A resource for using QUEST media in the classroom; created by QUEST Wisconsin

QUEST SUBJECTS

Life Science

Biology
Health
Environment

Earth Science

Geology
Climate
Weather
Astronomy

Physical Science

Physics
Chemistry
Engineering

WISCONSIN MODEL ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Grade 8

G.8.3 Illustrate the impact that science and technology have had, both good and bad, on careers, systems, society, environment, and quality of life

Grade 12

G.12.3 Analyze the costs, benefits, or problems resulting from a scientific or technological innovation, including implications for the individual and the community

This slideshow explores the recycling process or de-manufacturing of e-waste. The facility featured, Universal Recycling Technologies, processes e-waste including televisions, monitors, computers, and printers, for recycling and reuse. This teaching asset accompanies the QUEST Radio story, [E-Waste Programs Reach Milestone](#).

SUGGESTIONS FOR CLASSROOM USE

- Learn more about the life cycle of electronics. Make a list of all the electronic devices in your home. What will happen to them when they are disposed of? Will they be reused or recycled? What choices do consumers and users have that will determine how their electronics are reused or recycled?
- Contact local waste management services and research which type of e-waste programs are available. Which electronic devices do the programs recycle or reuse? Is e-waste processed locally or is it sent overseas in your community?

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, LESSON PLANS ACTIVITIES

- [Recycling in America](#) - Once the hobby of a small number of environmentalists, recycling is now a multi-billion dollar industry. This series from QUEST looks at how changing economic times are affecting four states' efforts to deal with waste.
- [E-Waste: The Digital Dark Side](#) - This lesson from KQED Education and [video clip from PBS Frontline World](#) aims to increase students' awareness of the existence of e-waste and its effect on global communities, as well as the socioeconomic factors and consumer choices that contribute to this phenomenon.