



Compendium of Canadian e-waste laws and environmental resources

The following information may be useful in better understanding the various e-waste laws throughout the states.

That noted, laws and regulations change regularly at the drop of a hat. As always, if you are planning business based on any of this information, please consult with your attorney to ensure you know what the present status of the law is.

Alberta

Electronics Recycling Bylaw

- *Date Law Signed:* October, 2004
- *Eligible Products:* TVs, CPUs, Keyboard, mouse, cables and/or speakers, Televisions, monitors, printers, laptops & notebooks
- *Who Gets Free Recycling:* End user; a person who purchases new electronics for their intended use
- *Who Pays:* End-users of electronic products, who pay a one-time fee upon purchase
- *Language on Toxics:* None
- *Goals or targets for collection:* “Enable effective waste minimization and recycling solutions for all eligible electronics discarded by Albertans”
- *Target (in total tonnes):*
 - 2006/07 Result 6,365 tonnes
 - 2007/08 Forecast 11,386 tonnes
 - 2008/09 Target* 15,663 tonnes
 - 2009/10 Target 18,795 tonnes
 - 2010/11 Target 22,554 tonnes
- [Link to Bylaws](#)

Who pays for collection, transportation, recycling? The Alberta e-waste recycling program is funded by end-users of electronic products, who pay a one-time fee upon purchase. That fee is then remitted to the Alberta Recycling Management Authority (ARMA), a non-profit body established to administer the program. The responsibility for collecting and remitting the fee falls on members of the retail and manufacture supply chain, who are required to register with ARMA and to file regular remittance reports.

The fees paid by end- users range from \$5 for a notebook computer to \$45 for a 46-inch television, and are intended to cover the cost of collection, transportation, and recycling of electronic materials, public information and awareness programs, and electronics-related research. Although ARMA intends to expand the products covered by the program in the future, consumers currently pay fees only on televisions and computers. Since the regulations were enacted in October 2004, Alberta has established over 75 disposal sites for unwanted electronics products. Products collected at the various drop points are transported to one of three central processing facilities, where they are dismantled and sorted into components.

Although consumers pay the environmental surcharge, it is the retailers, suppliers, and manufacturers that bear the administrative burden of remitting the fees to ARMA. All suppliers of products into Alberta are required to register with ARMA and file annual reports. The term “supplier” is defined to include manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, and retailers. The result is that all members of the electronics supply chain must be registered with ARMA, beginning with the party who either imports to product into Alberta or manufactures it in Alberta. Suppliers in a chain must establish among themselves who will be responsible for remitting the surcharge to ARMA on a monthly basis.

Although this program offers administrative inconvenience to suppliers in and into Alberta, it does little to affect their practice of manufacturing and distributing products. The program does not impose

obligations on the industry that are likely to result in reduced production of hazardous e-waste in the future (<http://www.cba.org/CBA/Newsletters/pdf/ewaste.pdf>).

* Estimates have been included for the processing of 4,000 tonnes of material held by the City of Edmonton.

(Source: Alberta's 2008/09 – 2010/11 Business Plan; <http://www.albertarecycling.ca/searchresults.aspx>)

[Alberta Recycling Management Authority](#)

British Columbia

- *Date Law Signed:* In August 2007, Encorp won a contract from the Electronic Stewardship Association of BC to manage a recovery and recycling program for the end-of-life electronics covered by provincial legislation. Encorp Pacific (Canada) is a federally incorporated, not-for-profit, product stewardship corporation with beverage container management as its core business
- *Eligible Products:* desktop computers, monitors, laptops, printers and televisions
- *Who Gets Free Recycling:* residents; drop off at a designated Return-It Electronics Collection Site
- *Who Pays:* As of August 1, 2007, an Environmental Handling Fee (EHF) is levied on the sale of new products in the designated categories. One-hundred percent (100%) of the program revenue will be used for the administration, collection, transportation, and responsible recycling of end-of-life electronics
- *Language on Toxics:* None
- *Goals or targets for collection:* Not listed

[Environmental Management Act](#)

[Encorp](#)

Nova Scotia

- *Date Law Signed:* Effective February, 2008
- *Eligible Products:* Televisions, monitors, printers and computers. Phones, cell phones, scanners, faxes, DVD players and stereos will be added to the list of recyclables in February 2009
- *Who Gets Free Recycling:* All residents and businesses in Nova Scotia can recycle their unwanted electronics free of charge through an ACES Drop-off Centre
- *Who Pays:* An Environmental Handling Fee (EHF) will be applied to the sale of select electronic products, including computers, monitors, printers and televisions
- *Language on Toxics:* None
- *Goals or targets for collection:* Not listed

In November 2007, [Electronics Product Stewardship Canada \(EPSC\)](#) and the [Retail Council of Canada \(RCC\)](#) established the Atlantic Canada Electronics Stewardship (ACES) Association to deliver an industry-led Electronics Stewardship Program in Nova Scotia.

ACES is a not-for-profit association registered in Nova Scotia under the Societies Act. It represents brand owners, manufacturers, retailers and other stakeholders who are committed to collecting and recycling electronic waste in an environmentally responsible manner. ACES is responsible for all aspects of the Nova Scotia Electronics Recycling Program that has been approved by the Province of Nova Scotia.

[Link to Regulation](#)

Ontario

Ontario Regulation 393/04

Waste Diversion Act, 2002

- *Date Law Signed:* Dec. 14, 2004; on July 9, 2008, the Minister of the Environment approved the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Program Plan
- *Eligible Products:* Electronic and electrical equipment, including household appliances, televisions, telephones, computer equipment, tools, toys, and audio-visual equipment
- *Who Gets Free Recycling:* End users; drop off locations are free to the public
- *Who Pays:* Stewards: Brand owners and first importers into Ontario of products that result in blue box wastes are defined as “stewards.” Stewards can satisfy their obligations either by becoming members of Stewardship Ontario, or by developing and submitting their own Industry Stewardship Plans to WDO for approval. Stewards who become members of Stewardship Ontario pay fees based on the amount of blue box packaging they have released into the Ontario market. They are also responsible for implementing measures to reduce the amount of packaging they produce
- *Language on Toxics:* None
- *Goals or targets for collection (targets are listed in terms of accessibility to of drop off locations).*
 - Year 1: 167
 - Year 2: 422
 - Year 3: 521
 - Year 4: 602
 - Year 5: 655
 - See pg. 91 for [targets totaled by region](#)
- [Link to Bylaws](#)

Who pays for collection, transportation, recycling? On Dec. 14, 2004, after a period of public consultation, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment enacted Ontario Regulation 393/04, naming electronic waste as a “designated waste” for the purposes of the *Waste Diversion Act, 2002*. Environment Minister Leona Dombrowsky then ordered the development a diversion program for the e-waste specified in the regulation. The content of the regulation itself is minimal. It prescribes “waste electronic and electrical equipment” as a designated waste for the purposes of the *Waste Diversion Act, 2002*, and sets out a schedule listing over 200 captured by the regulation. The schedule, which is not exhaustive, includes household appliances, televisions, telephones, computer equipment, tools, toys, and audio-visual equipment.

The regulation itself does not mandate an e-waste recycling program, but simply permits the minister to request that a program be developed and implemented by Waste Diversion Ontario (WDO), a non-share, non-government corporation responsible for the province’s blue box program. WDO is run by a board of directors that includes industry, municipal and nongovernmental representatives, and currently administers its programs jointly with Stewardship Ontario, an industry funding organization created for that purpose.

The program is administered in a similar fashion to the province’s blue box program. Under the blue box program, brand owners and first importers into Ontario of products that result in blue box wastes are defined as “stewards,” and must fulfill certain obligations associated with the recycling of blue-box wastes. Stewards can satisfy their obligations either by becoming members of Stewardship Ontario, or

by developing and submitting their own Industry Stewardship Plans to WDO for approval. Stewards who become members of Stewardship Ontario pay fees based on the amount of blue box packaging they have released into the Ontario market. They are also responsible for implementing measures to reduce the amount of packaging they produce. This industry stewardship approach, in sharp contrast to the Alberta waste diversion program, places the emphasis on industry to develop sustainable methods of manufacture and supply, mandating responsibility and ensuring that e-waste is not only recycled, but also reduced.

[Waste Diversion Ontario](#)

Saskatchewan

- Date Law Signed: February, 2007
- Eligible Products: desktop computers, laptops, printers and televisions
- Who Gets Free Recycling: residents; drop off locations are free to the public
- Who Pays: Beginning February 1, 2007, consumers who purchase designated electronics will pay an Environmental Handling Fee (EHF) that will be collected by retailers and remitted to the Saskatchewan Waste Electronic Equipment Program (SWEEP) to finance the program
- Language on Toxics: None
- Goals or targets for collection: Not listed

[Waste Electronic Equipment Regulation](#)

[SWEEP](#)