



Computer Re-News

The Quarterly Newsletter of Cascade Asset Management, LLC * Wisconsin's Premiere Computer Recycler



Cascade Open House - October 29th

Tour our new facilities, learn about computer recycling, sample some food
12 noon to 6:00 p.m., 2601 Seiferth Road, Madison, Wisconsin

Cascade invites you to join us in celebrating our growth and move into new facilities. We will be hosting an Open House on Tuesday, October 29th from noon to 6:00 p.m. A formal ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at 4:00 p.m. Guests are welcome to join Cascade staff throughout the day.

Our main processing facility at 2601 Seiferth Road on the east side of Madison will be the showcase. This 20,000 square foot facility features on-site shredding capabilities, improved and streamlined computer and monitor testing and repair stations, as well as increased demanufacturing capacity. The new setup more than doubles the productivity of our staff resulting from new investments in plant layout, improved handling equip-

ment, and more powerful tools.

In addition, Cascade will offer tours of its unique CRT processing facility on Femrite Drive, just 2 miles from the Seiferth location. Cascade staff will demonstrate our state-of-the-art process for turning waste CRTs into a product that is used in the manufacture of new picture tubes. This process safely captures and recycles the leaded glass in a closed loop process, and Cascade is one of a handful of companies in the world with this capability.

The Open House will also feature informational displays and videos about the electronics recycling industry and its impact on the environment. Food and beverages will be served throughout the event. Plenty of free parking is available. The staff of Cascade looks forward to seeing you. ■

Since Cascade opened in April, 1999, we've:

- * Collected over 3.9 million pounds of old electronics.
- * Refurbished and resold or donated over 40,000 monitors, computers and printers.
- * Demanufactured and recycled over 32,000 cathode ray tubes.
- * Kept more than 84,000 pounds of lead out of landfills.
- * Provided services to more than 525 businesses and institutions in Wisconsin, Illinois and Minnesota.
- * Processed equipment for over 2,500 households.
- * Donated more than \$55,000 worth of equipment to local charities and causes in developing countries.

WasteCap Wisconsin hosts "Talk & Tour" at Cascade

Learn from the DNR about the regulations for computer disposal and develop solutions with peer organizations

Join Cascade Asset Management and WasteCap Wisconsin for a Talk & Tour at Cascade to learn from the DNR about current regulatory requirements related to the disposal of computers, to participate in guided tours of our facilities, and to learn IT management strategies from other businesses and institutions dealing with computer disposal issues.

The event will take place in the morning of Tuesday, October 29th at Cascade's new Seiferth location. This is the same day as our Open House, so you are welcome to spend more time with us later.

Advanced registration is required for this event, and seating is limited. Please contact

WasteCap Wisconsin to register at 414-961-1100 or register on-line at www.wastecapwi.org. The cost of the event is \$35.00 (free for WasteCap members), and it includes refreshments and information materials.

WasteCap Wisconsin is a private, nonprofit, industry supported 501(c)(3) organization. Its mission is to provide waste reduction and recycling assistance through business-to-business peer exchange, demonstration and education for the benefit of businesses and the environment. Be sure to look them up to see how they can help your organization. ■

Talk & Tour Schedule

Tuesday, Oct 29th, 2601 Seiferth Rd.

8:00 - 9:00 am: **Registration**

9:00 - 10:00 am: **Talk**

* video of overseas e-scrap dumping, DNR overview of regulations

10:15 - 11:15 am: **Tours**

*demanufacturing, shredding and CRT recycling

11:15 am - Noon: **Sharing**

* information and brainstorm

\$35 registration, contact WasteCap
www.wastecapwi.org 414-961-1100

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Data Protection - Cascade adds onsite shredding

Hard drives, electronic media securely destroyed

Cascade Asset Management recently purchased a Mitts & Merrill high torque shredder for its new Seiferth Road facility. This shredder can process more than 2,000 pounds per hour of electronic scrap. The main benefit of the shredder for our customers is in our ability to destroy electronic media on-site. Previously, these items were shredded and recycled by a bonded outside contractor located nearby Cascade.

In concert with our technology to electronically wipe usable hard drives prior to resale, this shredding technology provides a complete assurance that all data contained on any electronic media (hard drives, diskettes, CDs, and tapes) is rendered completely unrecoverable. Cascade's secure data destruction offers 100% protection.



Shredded hard drives and other electronics processed by Cascade's new shredder.

Data protection is extremely important to all businesses. Corporate trade secrets, personal information about clients and students, and nontransferable licensed software must all be removed from media. In some industries, this data destruction is mandated. The federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) of 1996 requires the health industry to protect the privacy of patient records, both in hard copy and electronic format. In addition, a Wisconsin law from 2000 requires financial institutions, investment companies,

medical businesses, and tax preparation businesses to shred, erase or modify records containing personal information or face heavy fines.

Data destruction is a standard service included in Cascade's service fees. ■

New costs for responsible recycling

This summer saw increased costs for responsible recycling of certain electronic scrap (including CRTs and the circuit boards in monitors and terminals), primarily due to increased demand for domestic recycling spurred on by negative reports of overseas dumping. Cascade's resale markets remain stable with demand up sharply. Pentium 2's are now the standard used commodity. ■

Current Values of Recycled Commodities Based on actual sales between July-September, 2002

Recycled Commodities

Aluminum	\$.45/lb.
Scrap Iron	\$.0035/lb.
Low value boards	(\$.35/lb.)
Prec. Circuit Boards	\$0.85/lb.
Mixed Plastic	\$0.01/lb.
Glass CRTs	(\$3.00/ea)
Copper yokes	\$.10/lb.
Cable end caps	\$1.45/lb.

Reusable Products

P2, 333MHz PC	\$67.50
15" monitor, >1997	\$12.00
Pentium 2 laptop	\$215.00

Values listed in this table are subject to current market conditions which vary.

Legal Updates

Highlights of recently passed and introduced legislation related to computer recycling in Wisconsin and beyond.

Wisconsin: The Legislative Council on Recycling agreed to pursue the following initiatives on electronics disposal at its September meeting:

- * A landfill ban on TVs and computers
- * Development of state procurement guidelines to encourage the purchase of environmentally responsible PCs
- * Study the current recycling infrastructure

In addition, the Council was unable to come up with a consensus on a new financing system for electronics recycling. The Council is continuing to seek input on these issues and hopes to propose some legislation in the near future.

California: Governor Davis vetoed legislation on September 30th that would have assessed a \$10 fee on all new CRTs sold to help pay the cost of CRT recycling. In his strongly worded veto message, the Governor said the bills don't go far enough and that manufacturers must be compelled to solve the problem, as they have done in Europe.

National: The National Electronic Product Stewardship Initiative's negotiations stalled over the summer, even though an agreement was hoped to be developed by September. Subcommittees continue talking. A general NEPSI meeting to debate a voluntary national solution to electronics recycling is scheduled for November. ■

Firms fined for improper disposal of computers

Recent examples of seizures of improperly disposed electronic equipment demonstrate the importance of responsible recycling. As news reports of the mounting problem of computer waste increase, so does the potential for firms to be fined for illegally dumping e-scrap.

In September, the customs office in China seized a shipment from the USA containing 450 tons of electronics scrap, reports the *People's Daily Online*. In response to the recent publicity about environmental and health problems in Guiyu, Chinese officials are apparently cracking down on banned imports of electronic waste. The origin of the seized equipment is under investigation.

In July, 2000, a computer recycling firm in Illinois agreed to pay \$99,000 in penalties issues by the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and make significant safety and health improvements at its facility. The company no longer has an active phone number and some customers who sent their equipment to this recycler for processing have no idea what happened to the equipment.

Recently, a discarded computer was recovered during the dredging of a section of the Fox River in Wisconsin. Authorities found an OEM software license on the unit and called up Microsoft to see who owned the license. The original owner was identified as a company in Wisconsin. Upon further investigation, it was discovered that the computer was given to an employee of the company. The employee couldn't get the computer to work, so he threw it in the river. The company was fined for the illegal disposal.

Cascade Asset Management ensures customers' equipment is handled legally and responsibly by demanufacturing all unusable equipment in-house, sending all hazardous wastes handled to a licensed audited facility, and maintaining adequate insurance and closure coverage. ■