

Thomas Jefferson University Hospital safely disposes old computers

Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Philadelphia, has been successfully recycling electronics since 2001. Retired computers and electronics are removed and stored by information services or the housekeeping department, cleaned of confidential information per HIPAA regulations, and then safely disposed.

Support services and housekeeping staffs prepare the equipment by placing it on pallets. A contracted vendor then removes the discarded equipment and separates it into its various glass, metal and plastic components. The hospital ensures that the material is broken down into raw material for recycling and that the vendor has established reliable, safe and environmentally responsible outlets for recycling raw material that's sold internationally.

Note: This article originally appeared in the January 2006 issue of the *GreenLink* newsletter. Check back soon for additional details on this success story.

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