



**Turn Your Computer Green –  
Become a State Electronics Challenge Partner**  
[www.StateElectronicsChallenge.net](http://www.StateElectronicsChallenge.net)

**What Is the Challenge?**

The State Electronics Challenge (SEC) is a voluntary program that provides free support to state, tribal, regional, and local governments, including schools, colleges, universities, and other public entities to:

- Purchase greener computer equipment.
- Conserve energy and paper, and
- Manage obsolete computers in an environmentally safe way.

Government agencies and organizations participate as "Partners" in the program. The SEC provides Partners with free resources and technical assistance for improving computer equipment management practices, provides annual sustainability reports, and offers annual recognition to Partners that have achieved specific goals.

Ninety government entities in 33 states—representing more than 130,000 employees—have signed on as SEC Partners, making a commitment to improve the environmental footprint of their computer assets. For the current list of Partners, visit [http://stateelectronicschallenge.net/current\\_partners.html](http://stateelectronicschallenge.net/current_partners.html).

**Why Should Government Get Involved?**

Collectively, state and local governments purchase more than \$35 billion worth of technology equipment annually; providing an opportunity to demonstrate leadership in the environmentally sound and cost-effective management of computer equipment. The SEC helps state, tribal, local, and regional governments, schools and agencies to become leaders and face the challenges posed by this waste stream. And, it's a great opportunity to get teachers and students involved in environmental action.

**Why Computers?**

Used and obsolete electronics, such as computers, are part of an increasing and complex waste stream that poses challenging environmental management problems.

Computer products contain a variety of hazardous constituents. Cathode ray tubes, circuit boards, batteries, and other electronic components often contain toxic materials such as lead and cadmium. This growing and changing waste stream presents new challenges and responsibilities in designing and managing products to reduce the environmental impacts associated with each phase of the lifecycle — procurement, operation and maintenance, and end-of-life management.

**Why Become an SEC Partner?** By becoming a Partner, you will receive free support and assistance to implement change; demonstrating environmental leadership in your state, region, and the nation. And, your actions as a Partner will have significant environmental impacts. For example, for every 1,000 “green” computers you purchase and recycle, you:

- Decrease energy usage by the amount of electricity needed to power 105 households annually;
- Lower greenhouse gas emissions by an amount equivalent to removing 113 passenger cars from the road per year;
- Avoid the amount of solid waste generated by 18 households annually;
- Decrease hazardous waste entering the waste stream by 17 metric tons; and
- Avoid the use of 164 pounds of toxic materials, including lead and mercury.<sup>1</sup>

**Sustainability Reports.** The SEC annually provides Partners with individualized sustainability reports. These demonstrate the impact of your actions, as well as provide an opportunity to promote your achievements.

**Annual Recognition.** Partners have the opportunity to obtain annual recognition for their accomplishments.

**Partner-only Resources.** The State Electronics Challenge provides free support to help you implement the lifecycle practices that you choose.

- ➔ **Implementation Tools** provide Partners with resources to implement program goals for procurement, energy conservation, equipment reuse and donations, and recycling.
- ➔ **Free Technical Assistance** to Partners on such issues as program requirements, available resources, mentor organizations, and completion of data collection forms.
- ➔ **Partner-only Webinars** provide focused presentations on selected topics.

Visit the Web site at [www.StateElectronicsChallenge.net](http://www.StateElectronicsChallenge.net) to sign-up, or for more information contact [info@stateelectronicschallenge.net](mailto:info@stateelectronicschallenge.net).  
And, it's easy and free to become a Partner. On-line registration is simple – it won't take more than 2 or 3 minutes for you to join.

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<sup>1</sup> Based on the purchase of 1,000 EPEAT<sup>®</sup> Silver registered CPUs with LCD monitors and enabling their power management features, and the recycling of 1,000 CPUs with CRT monitors; estimates were calculated using the U.S. EPA-funded Electronics Environmental Benefits Calculator (v2, dated 3-2-09).

C/o NERC, 139 Main St., Suite 401, Brattleboro, VT 05301

[info@stateelectronicschallenge.net](mailto:info@stateelectronicschallenge.net) • ph: 802-254-3636

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