



### Obligations for Users of Electrical and Electronic Equipment

The end user is required to collect, store, and hand over waste electrical and electronic equipment from households to the retailer, authorized collector, or as a separately collected fraction of municipal waste at a collection center or a collection point provided by the manufacturer. The end user is also obligated to collect and store the waste equipment separately before handing it over, without mixing it with other types of waste. It must not be crushed, damaged, or contaminated with hazardous substances as this could prevent its reuse or recycling.

For more information about your rights as a consumer, you can contact the Consumer Organization of Macedonia (OPM) in Skopje at phone number 02 3 179 592, through their website [www.opm.org.mk](http://www.opm.org.mk), or via email at [sovetuvanje@opm.org.mk](mailto:sovetuvanje@opm.org.mk).

The Consumer Protection Council of the City of Skopje supports consumer protection through its programs.

**CITY OF SKOPJE**



**CONSUMER  
PROTECTION COUNCIL**

CONSUMER PROTECTION COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF SKOPJE  
Bul. Ilinden No. 82 – Skopje

OTM



**CITY OF SKOPJE**

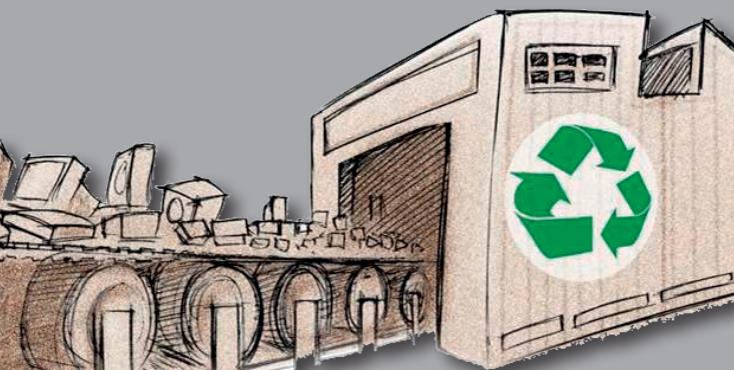


**CONSUMER  
PROTECTION COUNCIL**

# E-WASTE

**WASTE ELECTRICAL AND  
ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT**

When people come into contact with these toxic materials, they may develop health problems. These problems can include respiratory diseases, hormonal issues, cancer, developmental problems, as well as damage to the reproductive, nervous, and developmental systems. Electronic parts and materials are valuable resources that can be reused or recycled. To conserve natural resources and the energy used to produce new electronic equipment, we should repair, reuse, and recycle old equipment whenever possible.



## E-WASTE

### Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment

"Waste electrical and electronic equipment" or e-waste refers to old or defective electrical and electronic equipment, along with all of its parts, subassemblies, and materials that were part of the product when discarded. "Electrical and electronic equipment" refers to any equipment that works with electricity or electromagnetic fields. This includes devices used for the generation, transmission, and measurement of electrical current or fields and is designed to operate with a voltage up to 1000 volts for alternating current and 1500 volts for direct current.

#### ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT INCLUDES:

- **Large and small household appliances** such as televisions, washing machines, refrigerators, hairdryers, toasters, and similar.
- **Computer and telephone equipment**, such as computers, monitors, printers, keyboards, mice, mobile phones, chargers, batteries, and others.
- **Toys and entertainment electronics** that use electricity or batteries.
- **Lighting devices**, such as regular and energy-saving bulbs.
- **Other electronic devices**, such as digital cameras, video cameras, and external memory devices.
- **Medical equipment**, such as blood pressure monitors, thermometers, and larger hospital electronic equipment.

Globally, e-waste is growing at a tremendous rate – around 40 million tons are discarded each year. This type of waste is produced three times faster than regular waste and is a significant source of toxic substances, such as lead, cadmium, and mercury. E-waste contains heavy metals, plastics, and other chemicals. Additionally, electronic devices are made from precious materials like gold, silver, plastic, and glass, which require a lot of energy to produce. When we dispose of old electronics, these resources are lost, and more energy is consumed to produce new devices, further polluting the environment. If e-waste ends up in landfills, its toxic substances can seep into the soil and groundwater, which is harmful to the environment and human health.

Therefore, proper collection and recycling of e-waste are crucial. Recycling preserves natural resources, reduces pollution, and protects the environment.

