



# Electronic waste recycling provides jobs for those with disabilities

The Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities (WCBDD) has recently partnered with Cohen to place individuals with developmental disabilities into skilled labor employment positions.

Cohen, one of North America’s largest metal recycling companies, has hired two individuals who receive services and supports from WCBDD, in their E-Waste Division.

E-waste is the term for discarded electronics or electrical devices, which include computers, copiers, phones, portable entertainment devices, mobile phones, televisions, VCRs, DVD players, stereo equipment, or almost anything that has an electrical cord.

“Instead of disposing e-waste into landfills, people can discard their old electronics in an environmentally-friendly way by donating them to a qualified recycler,” said Eugene Rose of Cohen. "We have a relatively new division in Cohen that has grown significantly in the past six months. It’s our E-Waste Division where we recycle raw materials from end-of-life electronics. By dismantling and providing reuse possibilities, we conserve natural resources, and avoid the air and water pollution that’s caused by hazardous e-waste disposal."

Cohen's E-Waste Division disassembles old computers and electronics to recapture whatever metals and parts they can reuse or sell. "Although the profit margins are slim, e-cycling is the right thing to do. It protects the environment, makes the world a healthier place, and provides good jobs to workers," said Rose. "The individuals receiving services

from WCBDD are fantastic employees in our E-Waste Division. They have quickly picked up the skills needed for their job, and they are performing well."

## How can you help?

In order to grow this program and employ more individuals with disabilities, Cohen and the WCBDD are seeking old electronics to provide people with the jobs of disassembling them. You can help if you have old computers or other electronic devices that you need to dispose of.

The WCBDD will be collecting these devices during the month of January. Cohen will provide a large collection container in which you can drop off your items. Please note, TVs or computer monitors that contain cathode ray tubes will not be accepted in addition to stoves or refrigerators. All electronic devices collected at WCBDD will be specifically used to benefit individuals with developmental disabilities.

The WCBDD collection site will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday during the month of January, and is located at: Production Services Unlimited, Inc., 575 Columbus Avenue, Lebanon, OH 45036.

For more information, contact Angie Tapogna, at (513) 502-5015 or e-mail [angie.tapogna@co.warren.oh.us](mailto:angie.tapogna@co.warren.oh.us).



Workers at Cohen’s E-Waste Division use pneumatic screwdrivers to disassemble computers and other electronics.

Justin Byrd and Ben Burns enjoy working at Cohen’s E-Waste Division.

**Discard old electronics during the month of January at:**

Production Services Unlimited, Inc.,  
575 Columbus Avenue, Lebanon, OH 45036.

Open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Closed on Mon., Jan. 20th, for the MLK, Jr. holiday.

