

Cell Phones, Recycling & Reuse

Tens of millions of cellular telephones are put in boxes every year, never to be used again. That's too bad. Modern cell phones are nearly a required device in today society, but unfortunately they also contain toxic materials. When their life cycle is complete or you are approved for an upgrade, your outdated phone should be reused or recycled.

You can donate your old wireless phone to numerous programs listed below:

Columbia County District Attorney's Office - Crime Victims' Assistance Program is seeking cell phone donations to assist victims of violent crimes. This is not a fund-raising event. Working cell phones and pre-paid minutes will be assigned to individuals to use in the immediate aftermath of being victimized.

Most non-profits use donated cell phones as part of a safety plan. Victims can use the phones for the sole purpose of calling 911. The need for a phone often goes beyond safety. Telephone numbers are needed for follow up services, notifications, medical appointments, counseling, housing, and accessing community resources.

If you have working cell phones you are no longer using, please consider donating it the Crime Victims' Program. Hand deliver your donations to The Columbia County Victims' Assistance Program located on the third floor of the County Courthouse or by mail at Columbia County Crime Victims Assistance Program, 230 Strand Street, St. Helens, Or 97051

If you have questions regarding your donation, please contact Janice Faltersack at (503) 366-3914 or by e-mail at Janice.Faltersack@co.columbia.or.us

The Cell Phones for Soldiers program was started in April 2004 by 13-year-old Brittany Bergquist and her 12-year-old brother Robbie of Norwell, Massachusetts. Robbie and Brittany's goal is to help our soldiers serving overseas call home. They hope to provide as many soldiers as possible with prepaid calling cards. Through generous donations and the recycling of used cell phones, Robbie and Brittany have already distributed thousands of calling cards to soldiers around the globe. For donation information, click on [Cell Phones for Soldiers!](#)

To protect your identity and personal information, it is recommended that you erase all data from your cell phone prior to donating your phone. Links for information regarding data erasing on your cell phone and smart phones are listed below:

http://www.ehow.com/how_5850037_personal-cell-phones-before-donating.html

http://www.recellular.com/recycling/data_eraser/default.asp

data_eraser@wirelessrecycling.com

You can also donate used, working cell phone to the Bradley Angle House, which offers services to battered women and their children who seek safety behind their doors. Click on www.bradleyangle.org for more information.

Damaged, non-working or unwanted cell phones can also be recycled for by Call2Recycle. Click on www.call2recycle.com for recycling locations near you.

Phones or phone parts (like batteries & cords) are also collected. Try to collect as many parts as possible. Drop your phone or phone parts at any [Sprint PCS](#) or [Staples](#) chain store, or see [CollectiveGood](#) or [WirelessRecycling.com](#) for mailing information.