

Fifth Graders Raise Money by Collecting Old Cell Phones

Any cell phone can be donated to any fifth grader from now until June. Students are raising money to lessen the cost of their field trips.

FAQs:

What happens to the information I have stored on my phone? Cell phones that are recycled are completely dismantled and through this process, information is destroyed. Phones that are reused in other markets are “flushed” to allow new software to be loaded. If you feel more comfortable, you can always erase the information yourself.

Why are cell phones so harmful to the environment? Every cell phone contains no less than 8 hazardous materials including arsenic, antimony, lead and cadmium. Disposing of these phones in a landfill allows these substances to leak into the groundwater and soil. Burning them releases chemicals that are associated with cancer and developmental problems. One cell phone can pollute up to 132,000 liters of drinking water!!!

What kind of used cell phone can I donate to help? For us to receive money, a phone must power up, make a test call, and have an undamaged LCD screen. We do not accept earpieces, chargers, or any other accessory, but we do want the battery! And we'll even take a phone that doesn't work!!! (We don't get \$ for it, but they will still recycle the phone and battery in accordance with EPA guidelines.)