



# Electronic Waste

- ▶ Discarded electronic devices such as computers, smartphones, tablets, televisions, etc
- ▶ Surge in e-waste generation as technology advances
  - ▶ Number of devices, NOT tonnages

# E-Waste Issues

- ▶ Hazardous materials in e-waste
  - ▶ Heavy Metals, etc
  - ▶ Should NOT end up in Landfills
- ▶ Concern for the fire hazards associated with the lithium-ion batteries
  - ▶ 50% of Waste Fires in the US are caused by e-waste/lithium-ion batteries (Fire Rover, Waste Expo, 2024)
- ▶ NO standardized program
  - ▶ Confusion for residents
  - ▶ Collected by Solid Waste entities in some areas and Health Departments in others
  - ▶ No standardized fees
    - ▶ In some cases there isn't a way to collect a fee (Health Department Drop-offs)

# Utah E-Waste History

- ▶ 15 years ago, legislation was proposed
  - ▶ Producer/Industry opposed
  - ▶ Legislation didn't go anywhere
- ▶ No state-wide program
- ▶ Limited E-waste funding
  - ▶ Samsung has funded e-waste recycling in Salt Lake County
  - ▶ HP has funded e-waste recycling in Davis/Morgan Counties
- ▶ Funding has been county specific and has/is going away

# E-Waste Collected 2023

Location	Pounds of E-waste	Tons of E-waste
Bountiful	22,800	11.4
Cache County	82,631	41.3
Davis County, Wasatch Integrated	102,460	51.2
Salt Lake County Landfill	154,710	77.4
Salt Lake County, Trans-Jordan Landfill	277,240	138.6
Utah County, North Point	77,340	38.7
Washington County	112,726	56.4
Weber County	27,560	13.8
Total e-waste collected	829,935	428.7

# E-Waste Costs

- ▶ Cost to handle and package the material
- ▶ Cost to transport the material
- ▶ Cost to pay the recycler their fees

# E-Waste Legislation Supporters

- ▶ Solid Waste Facilities throughout the state
- ▶ SWANA (Solid Waste Association of North America) Beehive Utah Chapter
- ▶ Select Cities and Health Departments

# Possible Solutions

- ▶ Product fees or advanced recycling fees
  - ▶ Paid upfront when electronic device purchased
    - ▶ Similar to Tire Bill
- ▶ Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program:
  - ▶ Puts responsibility of producer to take back and recycle a certain percentage
- ▶ Government Funding:
  - ▶ Agencies allocate funds to support e-waste recycling from taxation or environmental levies
- ▶ Fees Charged at Solid Waste Facilities
  - ▶ Solid Waste entities charge a special fee for e-waste
- ▶ Electronic Producers fund specific programs
  - ▶ E-waste producers fund specific programs to recycle e-waste in specific areas

# E-Waste Desired Outcomes

- ▶ Interim Study to address the issue
- ▶ Establish a statewide program that is sustainable financially for the long-term and will allow E-waste recycling for ALL Utah residents