

MEDIA RELEASE

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Habitat ReStore Offers Free Responsible Electronics Recycling

New recycling program designed to keep electronics out of landfills

The Habitat ReStore now accepts outdated and unwanted electronics to be recycled and diverted from landfills. As a result of a new partnership with Vintage Tech Recyclers, Habitat ReStore is able to offer this free service to local businesses and residents to encourage responsible electronics recycling.

Electronics can be dropped off at Habitat ReStore, 1514 West Jefferson in Springfield, during store hours. Electronics accepted include computers, laptops, monitors, LCD's, cell phones, printers, scanners, modems, CD drives, cables, keyboards, mice, TV's, VCR's, DVD players, camcorders, cameras, game players and joysticks, telephones, pagers, answering machines, typewriters, calculators, adding machines, fax machines, copiers and postage meters.

“We are excited to offer this free recycling service to the Springfield community,” said Sarah Mackey, executive director of Habitat for Humanity. “Hundreds of millions of retired computers, cell phones, televisions, and electronics sit idle or are discarded irresponsibly by consumers and businesses every year. By recycling electronics at the Habitat ReStore, every part of old cell phones, computers and televisions are recycled responsibly.”

Responsible electronics recycling ensures a clean environment for future generations. Items such as monitors and circuit boards contain toxic substances including lead, mercury, and chromium. When these heavy metals get dumped into the solid waste stream it poses an environmental risk. By recycling outdated and unwanted electronics, the items are properly dismantled and reused or recycled instead of entering the waste stream. Vintage Tech Recyclers also destroys confidential information on computers through software and data removal processes.

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In addition to the new electronics recycling program, the Habitat ReStore also diverts usable home and building materials from the landfill. Habitat ReStore accepts donations of new and used building materials including appliances, cabinets, lighting fixtures, plumbing supplies, doors, windows and furniture. The donated items are then sold to the public at 50-75% off the retail prices. Proceeds from the Habitat ReStore support Habitat for Humanity in building decent, affordable housing in Sangamon County.

Habitat's electronics recycling partner, Vintage Tech Recyclers, Inc., is an R2/ISO 14001 and WBENC Certified company who has partnered with manufactures that will be funding the recycling cost for the Habitat ReStore recycling program. For more information about responsible electronic recycling visit Vintage Tech's web site at VintageTechRecyclers.com.

The Habitat ReStore is located at 1514 W. Jefferson Street in Springfield. Store hours are Monday –Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. For more information on the ReStore, call 217.787.7209 or visit HabitatSangamon.com.

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Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County is a community-driven nonprofit organization that develops working partnerships with local businesses, churches, community organizations and other individuals to build simple, decent and affordable housing for all people in need. Since its founding in 1989, Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County has completed 83 houses in Sangamon County, served over 300 individuals in Sangamon County and served 73 international families.