

About the **Missouri** **Computer Xchange**



Who We Are:

The Missouri Computer Exchange is a non-profit organization dedicated to reclaiming and recycling used computers and electronic equipment.

What We Do:

The Exchange, in cooperation with businesses and state agencies, develops programs in educational facilities to recycle donated computers for use by schools, non-profit organizations, and needy students.

Students involved in MOCX programs evaluate, repair, and refurbish donated computers putting useable computers in the hands of those in need. They also play an integral part of an e-waste recycling program that keeps technology waste out of Missouri landfills.

Our Goals:

- 1) To provide students with valuable problem-solving and management skills.
- 2) To put useable computers in the hands of those who need them most.
- 3) To help give students the confidence and hands-on skills they will need to compete in the technology industry.
- 4) To responsibly recycle and reclaim computer hardware to keep e-waste out of landfills.

The Need:

The information revolution has left in its wake a tidal wave of electronic waste. Americans throw away some 133,000 PCs PER DAY amounting to 2 million tons of waste! Sadly, only about 14% of all computers are recycled.

Unfortunately, most computers are discarded after only 2 years of use, despite the fact that components have an average life of 7 years. Even parts that are no longer functional contain precious metals and recyclable plastics that can be reclaimed.

At the same time, the need for free or low cost computers has never been higher. Estimates indicate that nationwide, schools could use an additional 9 million computers annually. Add in non-profit groups and student access programs and the figure rises to around 28 million.

Renovating donated machines provides a unique educational opportunity for students. It is a hands-on, real world experience in diagnosing and repairing computer technology. Those skills are vital to the continued technological progress of our state and country. In addition, the students know that their efforts aren't simply an exercise. Every machine they can reclaim will find a useful home. Plus it's a lot of fun!

The Exchange program:

- Allows businesses and individuals to get rid of old computers responsibly.
- Benefits schools and non-profit organizations by giving them the computer resources they so desperately need.
- Students get an enjoyable, valuable and socially conscience educational experience.
- Future generations benefit from the reduction of e-waste choking our landfills.

Missouri Computer Exchange

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How you can help

Donations:

We accept a variety of electronic equipment to recycle, including: Computers, keyboards, mice, hard drives, printers, networking devices, modems, digital cameras, cell phones, ink cartridges, VCRs, copiers, and scanners, regardless of age. We accept cash donations as well. Visit our website for details.

Affiliate Sales:

Visit the Affiliate Sales section on the How to Help link on our website the next time you are making a technology purchase. A percentage of every sale goes to support our effort.

Newsletter:

Subscribe to our email newsletter. Every issue is filled with MOCX events, tech news, and other valuable information. Subscription information is available on our website.

Volunteers:

We always need volunteers, especially those that can help transport machines to and from reclamation sites. Sign up on our website if you'd like to volunteer.

Adopt-A-Squad:

Like to help with an existing program? Like to start an Exchange program in your community? Adopt-A-Squad allows supporters to target their resources, both financial and in-kind, to a particular Exchange program.

Job Shadowing:

Provides an opportunity for students to experience a corporate work environment by "shadowing" employees from local IT departments. Contact us if your company would be willing to participate.

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Missouri
Computer
Xchange

New Homes
For
Old Computers

