



JOURNAL FILE

A teen takes an old computer past pallets of monitors bound for a recycling center as part of his job at Computer Reruns & Recycling.

Computer Recycling Demand on the Rise

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Officials from an Albuquerque computer recycling business that began almost by accident say they are kicking into high gear.

Computer Reruns & Recycling, a nonprofit business that employs teens in trouble with the law, announced last week that it will provide year-round recycling for folks looking for a place to dump their old computers.

There seems to be a need.

In 2005, Computer Reruns hauled 360,000 pounds of old computers to recycling plants even before it added "recycling" to its company name.

In 2006, 500,000 pounds were trucked out.

In 2007, the company, now called Computer Reruns & Recycling, plans to recycle a million pounds of computers, according to Mike Carpenter of the company's parent organization, New Mexico Technet.

Ten years ago, when Computer Reruns was just reruns, the company refurbished old computers and donated them

Computer recycling

Old computers can be dropped off at Computer Reruns & Recycling at 5445 Edith NE Suite E Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 345-5094.

to schools and charitable organizations. Employees were teens in the juvenile justice system who often reconstructed their lives as they rebuilt computers.

But the amount of old hardware and screens and electronics that couldn't be utilized kept piling up, Carpenter said, forcing the organization to start a recycling program.

Recently, Computer Reruns & Recycling partnered with a computer recycling company in Oklahoma, Natural Evolutions, Carpenter said. The alliance will enable the organization to process double the amount of old computers.

The company will continue to rebuild computers and employ troubled teens.