

Project 08–136 WasteCap Nebraska Electronics Recycling

Project Legend:

The main objectives of the grant are to increase electronics recycling awareness, increase access to environmentally safe recycling options, and provide a funding mechanism for local communities to host collection events. This has been completed through 1) developing a statewide educational and marketing program to create a consistent message regarding Nebraska electronics recycling 2) developing minimum performance standards for electronics recyclers, and 3) administering a small grants program that would give money to local communities wishing to hold electronics collection events.

Proposal Context: Multiple Communities

Duration: 2008–2010

Cost: From 2003 – 2008 there was a total of nearly \$2 Million in grant funds dispersed among 57 entities participating in electronics recycling programs.

NET Funding Objective: Waste Management

Process:

- This project concluded in 2010 after supporting 12 collection events in 12 communities, diverting 138,946 pounds of electronic waste from Nebraska landfills.
- WasteCap designed a program to offer small electronics recycling grants for underserved Nebraska communities. “Underserved” communities were defined as communities that had not held a recycling event in at least 3 years.
- Developed R2 responsible recycling practices for use in accredited certification programs that assess electronics recycler’s environmental, health and safety, and security practices.
- Developed turnkey system for holding electronic collection events so that organizations with little or no experience have the tools and resources needed for a successful event.

Domains: The Socio-Cultural domain is represented within this project because it successfully brought many communities together for recycling events. The Technological domain is also represented because communities were able to hold electronic collection events. Recycling electronics requires more resources due to health and safety concerns.

Transferability: This type of project could be implemented in any community where there is little access to electronic recycling services. R2 practices could be put into place at any electronic recycling facility.

