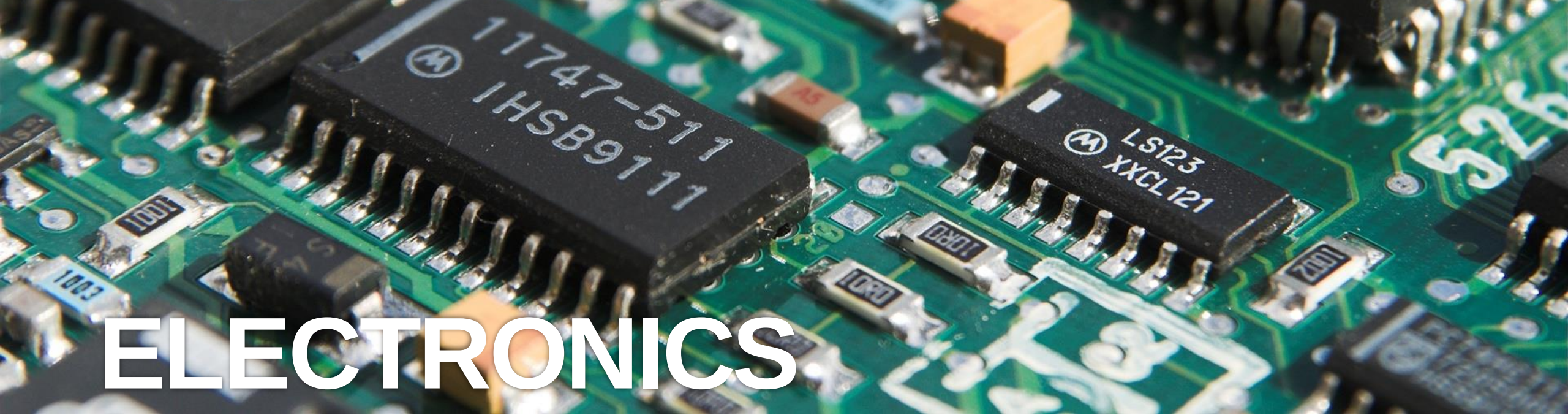




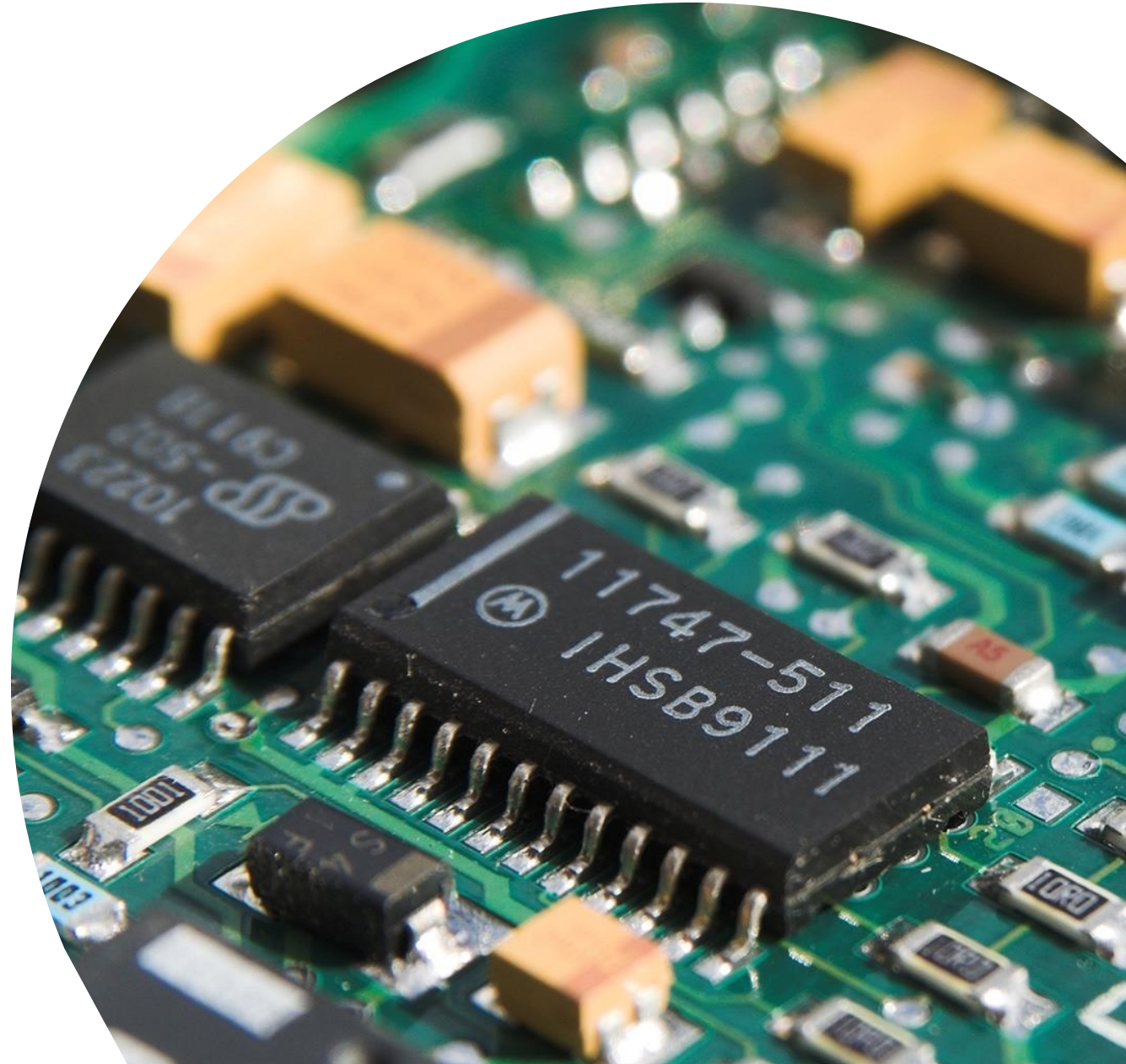


ELECTRONICS

- This resource is NOT intended as formal training or certification of new operators in the proper handling of electronic material.
- Collection Sites should work with their Registered Processors to ensure that electronics are program eligible, handled, stored, and prepared for transport appropriately.

Section 1: What is the Electronics Recycling Program?

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**Over 259,762 tonnes
of electronics have
been processed
since 2004**

Launched in 2004, ARMA's Electronics Recycling Program was the first in Canada to recycle computer equipment, televisions, and select office equipment.

Over the last 20 years, ARMA has worked to expand the list of eligible electronics.

Electronics Expanded!

- As of April 1, 2025, the electronics program was expanded to include 500+ items from the ePilot.

★ Please note that not all items were included in the expansion, and some items are now included in different categories.

- The following learning module will highlight program electronics categories and some important changes, however, for the complete list of items please see the **Electronic Products Definitions and Fees** documentation on our website.

Alberta Collects and Recycles seven Categories of Electronics

1. Computers and servers
2. Laptops/tablets/notebooks (portable computers)
3. Printers/copiers/scanners
4. Visual display and all in one devices
5. Home Small Appliances
6. AV/Telecom/Toys/Music
7. Tools/Lawn/Garden

1. Computers and servers

This category includes, but is not limited to:

- CPUs/servers which are not physically embedded or contained within industrial, commercial point-of sale (POS), medical imaging, diagnostic, monitoring or control equipment.
- Computer peripherals (e.g., keyboard, mouse, cables, speakers, docking stations) are included for recycling.

2. Laptops/tablets/notebooks (portable computers)

This category includes, but is not limited to:

- Laptops, tablets and notebooks

Tablet definition:

- A portable computer with an integrated touchscreen display which can connect wirelessly, WiFi and/or via cellular network for purposes of data exchange and transfer.
- A tablet does not have cellular phone capability.

3. Printers/copiers/scanners

This category includes, but is not limited to:

- All printers/printer combinations weighing less than 1,000 kilograms.
- Large multi-function printer copiers: document centres and facsimile machines with computer direct or networked printing function.
- Standalone photocopiers, fax machines, and scanners.
- Printers which are not physically embedded or contained within industrial, commercial POS, medical imaging, diagnostic, monitoring or control equipment, ATM kiosks, self-service kiosks, exercise equipment, and refrigerators.

★ Please note that printer ink and toner cartridges are considered peripheral items within the electronics program

4. Visual display and all in one devices

This category includes, but is not limited to:

- All-in-one devices.
- Devices with built-in components necessary to operate as a monitor.
- Processing units combined with a monitor.
- Closed circuit monitor screens (security or multi-purpose).
- Devices with a television tuner or a device that can operate as both a computer monitor and television.
- Visual display devices that are not physically embedded or contained within industrial or commercial equipment for example POS, medical imaging, diagnostic, monitoring or control equipment, ATM kiosk, self-service kiosk, gas station pump.

5. Home Small Appliances (personal or business use)

This category includes but is not limited to:

- Air treatment devices (residential air conditioners with freon removed, portable heaters).
 - ★ Residential air conditioners **only**, must have freon removed.
- Floor cleaning appliances.
- Garment care devices (portable or non-portable with a power cord/battery charger).
- Home office (appliances with a power cord/battery charger)
- Home security and monitoring devices (ex. Smart code/keyless entry deadbolt).
 - ★ Please note that this **no longer** includes smoke or carbon monoxide detectors.

5. Home Small Appliances (personal or business use)

This category includes but is not limited to:

- Kitchen countertop motorized – countertop appliances non-heating with a power cord/battery & charger (ex. Blender).
- Kitchen countertop heating – countertop appliances heating with a power cord/battery & charger (ex. Air fryer).
- Microwave ovens.
- Personal care – hair cutting and drying appliances, tooth care appliances, shavers & massagers, nail care, heating and cleaning.
- Time measurement – alarm clocks, wall clocks, timers.
- Weight measurement – bathroom, food, and luggage scales.

6. Av/Telecom/Toys/Music (personal or business use)

This category includes but is not limited to:

- Audio-visual systems – can transmit, record, playback an image, audio or video using mechanical, optical, and digital technologies and operates on battery power or are powered by the device they are connected to (ex. AM/FM radios, disc players).

★ Please note that audio-visual peripherals (headphones, headsets etc.) **are** included for recycling but no environmental fee is applied

- Handheld A/V - can transmit, record, playback an image, audio or video using mechanical, optical, and digital technologies and operates on battery power and/or have a power cord (ex. Audio baby monitors).
- Vehicle audio & video systems – Car security systems, dash radios, etc.

6. Av/Telecom/Toys/Music (personal or business use)

This category includes but is not limited to:

- Electronic toys & music – electronic games, toys, and musical instrument/accessories (ex. Electronic drums, remote control vehicles).
- Telecom – a device designed to record sound from incoming calls or handheld mobile or stationary devices with a handheld/headset communication device used to transmit and receive sound/data signals (ex. Telephone line answering machines, modems, cellular devices).

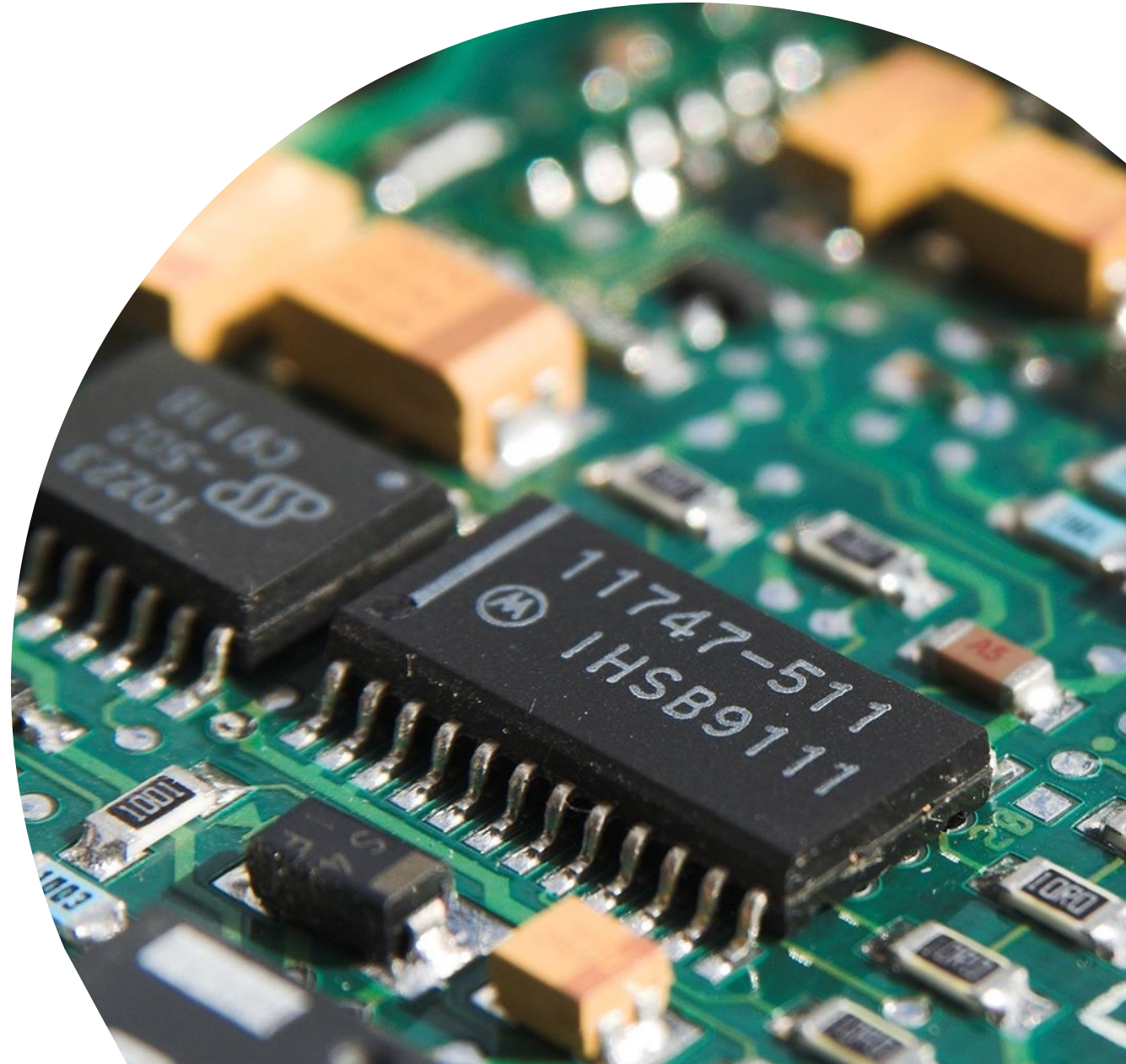
7. Tools/Lawn/Garden (personal or business use)

This category includes but is not limited to:

- Lawn & garden – equipment for lawn and garden care/maintenance with a power cord, plug, and/or battery (ex. Leaf blower, snow blower).
- Power tools – Electronic tools with a power cord, plug or battery mounted on a workbench, sitting, standing or handheld (ex. Table saw, corded or cordless drill).

Section 2: Collection and Storage of Electronics

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Do not leave computers or cellphones where they can be scavenged.



Do ensure electronic materials such as cell phones and laptops are stored in a secure location.



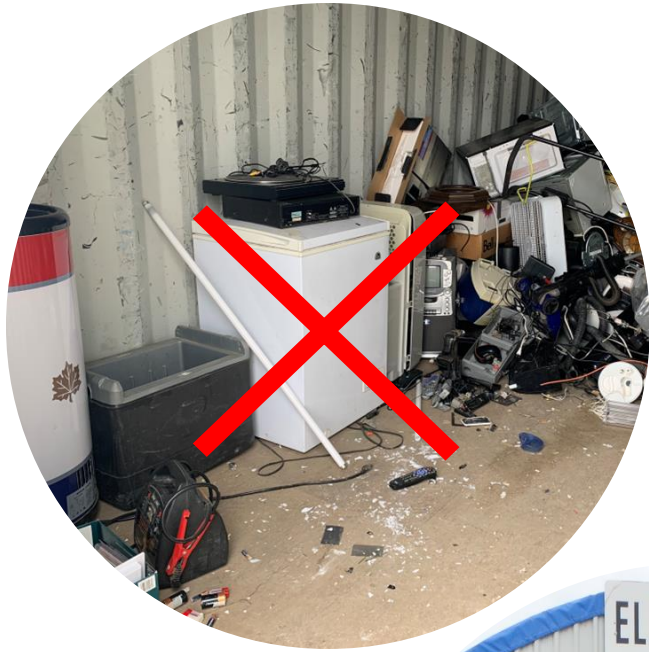
Why?

Electronic materials like laptops and cell phones can have sensitive information on them, even when sent for end-of-life recycling. Therefore, it is important to ensure that these materials are securely stored to prevent them from being scavenged, which could compromise sensitive information.



Tip!

Encourage residents to reset their electronic devices prior to dropping them off at your collection site.



 **Do not** mix non-program electronics with program electronic material.



 **Do keep** program electronics separated from any other non-program electronic devices or appliances.

Why?

White goods—like the freezer pictured—are not included in the electronics program and, as such, must be kept separate to ensure that incentives are not paid on non-program material.



Tip!

Have the public put their electronics on a pallet, table or in front of the sea can for site staff to sort. It's easier to sort material before it has been put into cages or sea cans. Work with your processor on how best to store material to ensure it is weighted and accounted for separately.



Do not pile electronics on the ground.



Do ensure you work with your processor to collect electronics in proper containment or sea cans, cages or on pallets.



Why?

Collecting electronics in a processor-approved container like a cage or a sea can make it easier and quicker for processors to pick up your material.



Tip!

Work with your processor on the best way to store your material such as placing heavy/large TVs on pallets to prevent site staff from having to lift material into the cages.



Do not wait for all cages or sea cans to be full or overflowing before contacting your processor for a pickup.



Do contact your processor when your cages or sea can are about $\frac{1}{2}$ full, depending on how long it takes to fill.

Why?

Often processors visit multiple sites on the way to pick up your material to ensure the trip is as efficient as possible. Giving a heads-up to your processor increases the likelihood that your material will be picked up before all your cages are full or overflowing.

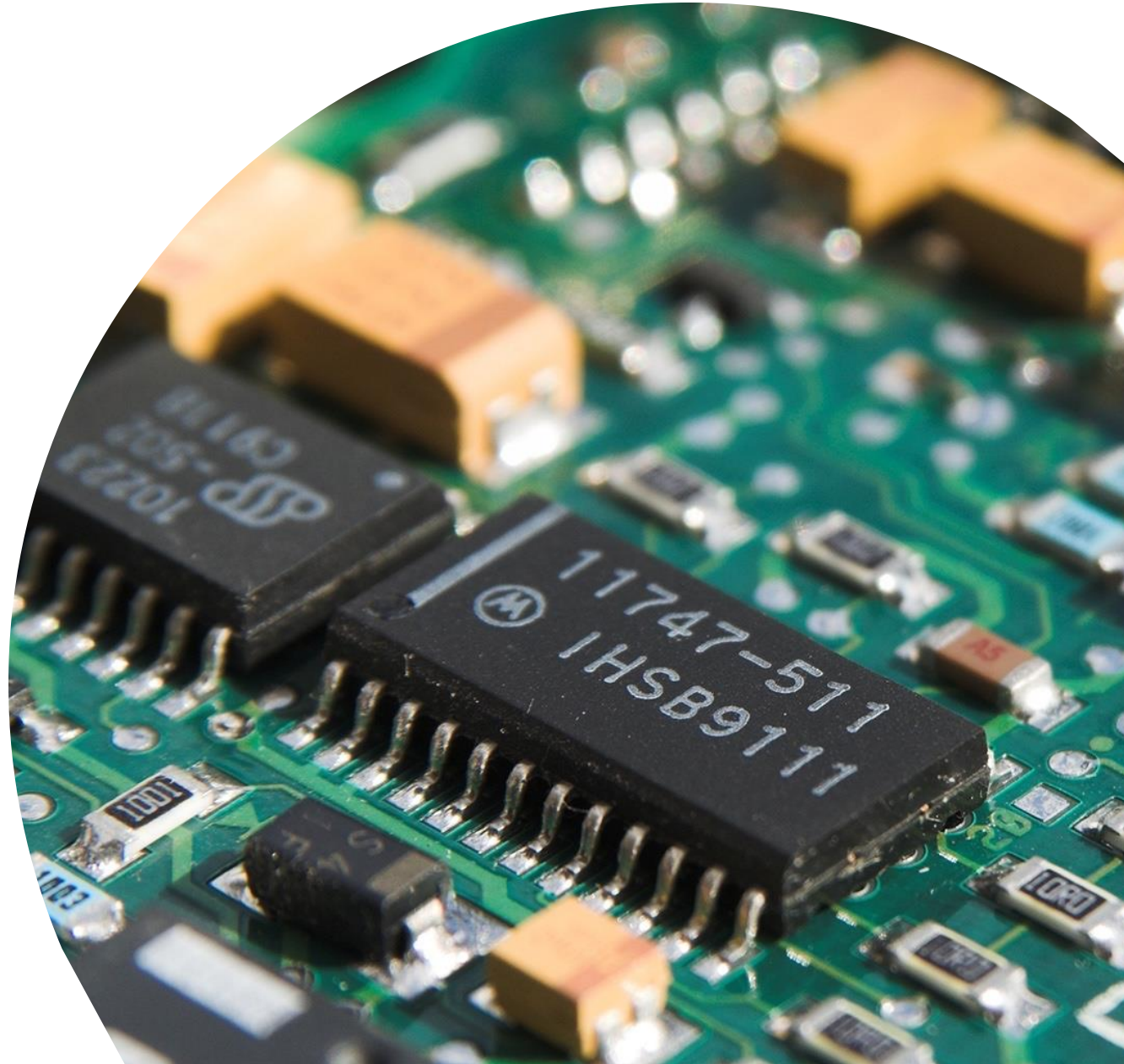


Tip!

Providing an image of your sea can/cages to your processor and letting them know how long it took to fill can help them plan your pick-up more efficiently and timely.

Section 4: What happens to electronics collected in Alberta?

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How are electronics processed?

1. Electronics are picked up from municipal collection sites, businesses, schools, universities, etc. across the province by registered Electronics Processors.
2. These processors safely disassemble them and separate each of the different materials according to the program's requirements.
3. Commodities like metals, plastics, and glass are collected and made into new products.

What do processed electronics become?

- The materials processed in Alberta's electronics recycling program are processed locally and are not sent to, or 'dumped' into developing countries.
- Electronics contain various valuable materials that can be broken down and reused.
 - The steel, aluminum and copper metal found in the wires, cables, and circuitry is used as feedstock for new products.
 - The glass from television and computer screens is melted down, separating the lead, and reused in the manufacturing of new products.
 - The plastic from the cases, keyboards, and mice is processed to produce plastic flakes or pellets used to make new consumer products.

Thank you for doing your part to recycle electronics!

Questions?

Feel free to contact ARMA using one of the methods listed below or visit albertarecycling.ca

Via Email:

- Field_services@albertarecycling.ca
- Collection.sites@albertarecycling.ca

Via Phone:

- Local 780.990.1111
- Toll-free 1.888.999.8762