



RAVEN RECYCLING

Our Commitment is the Environment

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MAIL USED TONER CARTRIDGES TO MANUFACTURER

If your office has a computer, odds are it has a printer. And if it has a printer it will have a dry ink toner cartridge. They can also be found in photocopiers.

Toner cartridges are usually full of a dry ink powder. This is the powder which enables the printer to transform whatever is on the screen into images on the paper.

These cartridges are refillable or rechargeable at certain businesses around town. However, be sure to check warranty conditions on each printer as using a refilled cartridge can sometimes affect it.

Refilling a dry ink toner cartridge is cheaper than buying a new cartridge, and is good for the environment. Less energy and materials are required when reusing a cartridge than in making a new one.

Cartridges can only be refilled so many times before they start to clog up and deliver less than satisfactory service. This is when dry ink toner cartridges should be recycled.

Note that toner cartridges shouldn't be confused with ink-jet cartridges. Ink-jets are much smaller than dry ink cartridges. They are also filled with a liquid and not an ink powder.

Ink-jets can be refilled locally, but the Raven Recycling Society is unaware of any manufacturer that recycles them. Once the ink-jets have reached the end of their useful life, they have to be discarded into the waste stream.

This is not the same for dry ink toner cartridges.

When the cartridge has reached the end of its useful life, it can be recycled. But don't bring it to a recycling centre.

Almost every manufacturer of toner cartridges now has a free mail-back policy. Bypass the recycling centres and send the cartridge straight back to the company that made it.

Inside each cartridge box there will be a pre-paid Canada Post address label or a pre-paid courier label. Follow the instructions on the box for packaging a used cartridge for mailing.

Then just fill them out either mailing or courier label, slap it on the box with the cartridge inside and let the postal (or courier) system take care of it.



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For more information about toner cartridge recycling, it is best to contact the manufacturer directly. Below are some of the major manufacturers and their contact telephone numbers. Raven apologizes to any companies who have been inadvertently left out.

Lexmark – 1-800-848-9894

Hewlett Packard – 1-800-387-3867

Xerox – 1-800-822-2200

A tip of the hat to all the manufacturers involved in this great program.

For local cartridge refilling in the Yukon, check out the Yellow Pages under Computer Supplies and Accessories.

Finally, some individuals are still dropping off toner cartridges at Raven Recycling Society. Please don't separate the cartridge from its original box. Raven needs the box to ship it back to the manufacturer.

Raven Recycling Society encourages everyone to ship their own dry ink cartridges back to the manufacturer themselves. It's easy, fun and a great way to recycle.

Lewis Rifkind is an employee of the Raven Recycling Society.