



Recycle your old cell phones, including batteries, Pagers and other portable electronic devices at the Peoria Zoo.

ECO-CELL™ and the Peoria Zoo collaborate with over 90 other zoos, aquariums and wildlife institutions toward educating our visitors and the public about the significant negative effects of the cell phone industry on wildlife.

Why recycle my cell phone?

Recycling cell phones will:

- conserve natural resources
- limit toxic e-wastes in landfills
- protect endangered animals and their habitats

Coltan is the metallic ore used to produce the element tantalum. Tantalum is used in a metal powder form that is lightweight and can hold a very high electrical charge. These properties make it a vital element in creating capacitors, the electronic elements that control flow inside miniature circuit boards. Tantalum capacitors are used in almost all cell phones, laptops, pagers and other electronic devices.

Coltan is most concentrated, and therefore most easily mined, in the rainforests of the former republic of the Congo. Unfortunately, the endangered lowland gorilla also calls this spot home. By recycling old cell phones, tantalum can be re-used - lessening the demand to mine pure coltan in the Congo. Market demand for cell phones is growing more than exponentially. The average Canadian teenager will dispose of 3 cell phones before they turn 20... and there are millions of Canadian teenagers.

Peoria Zoo has been recycling cell phones since 2007.

All funds generated by the project are donated to conservation programs. For each cell phone that is recycled, ECOCELL™ donates a minimum of \$0.45 and a maximum of \$15 to the Peoria Zoo Conservation Fund.

How you can get involved in the Peoria Zoo's cell phone recycling program:

*** Please ensure that the service of all donated cell phones has been discontinued

You can recycle your old cell phones, including batteries, pagers, and other portable electronic devices in a few ways:

- **Drop them off on your next Peoria Zoo visit!**
- **Mail cell phones to:** Peoria Zoo - Cell Phone Recycling Program
C/O Education Curator 2218 N. Prospect Rd. Peoria, IL 61603

