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**FOR RELEASE:** June 9, 2011  
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## **Ohio EPA Expands Agency Recycling Program to Include Phones 4 Food Program**

Ohio EPA is using SmartRecycle's "Phones 4 Food" program to recycle electronic devices and printer cartridges, the result of which will expand recycling efforts and set a good example at its Central Office location. Proceeds are donated to the Mid-Ohio Food Bank's Operation Feed.

Electronic devices accepted include cell phones, MP3 players and digital cameras. The recycling program allows employees to donate working and non-working devices.

All phones and accessories are re-purposed in a zero-waste, environmentally friendly way. Cell phones are either refurbishing or reused. Unusable metal or plastic components are smelted at a U.S. EPA-certified facility. One hundred percent of the consumer's data is scrubbed from devices using data disposition technology. All SIM cards are shredded and destroyed. All old or broken electronic devices are recycled but do not create revenue for Operation Feed.

In addition, Ohio EPA is adding a program to collect name brand printer cartridges. Printer cartridges would be reused when possible, and these donations also benefit Operation Feed. Employees are encouraged to bring cell phones and cartridges into the office from home for recycling. Brand name cartridges will be recycled by SmartRecycle, while store brand and remanufactured cartridges also are being recycled through Davis Laser Products.

This new effort builds on a very successful recycling program for paper, cardboard, plastic and aluminum at Ohio EPA.

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