



To whom it may concern:

We are a group of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students that are attending TAF (Technology Access Foundation) that is not located far from where you are located. We are at 3803 S. Edmunds St. Suite A. What my group is trying to do is collect as many old cell phones as possible and send them off to a recycling center that could turn them into useable products.

The reason that I am writing this letter to you guys is because we are asking permission to make a small collecting center there and reach our goal of 250 cell phones. The reason we are trying to get this project going is because only 10% of the 175 million active cell phones in the U.S. are recycled. And all those phones that aren't recycled pile up in landfills and put hazardous toxins into the atmosphere like lead, mercury (also damages kidney's if consumed), arsenic, and cadmium. We also have other important facts:

- There are 500 million cell phones that are no longer in use that aren't disposed yet.
- By the end of this year it is estimated that 700 million cell phones will be stockpiled in U.S. homes.
- The average American gets a new phone every 14-18 months.
- The company we're sending the phones to give some of their phones to emergency services.
- 65,000 tons of cell phones will be retired in the next three years.
- 7% of Americans throw their cell phones in the garbage.
- Some cell phones actually get in our neighborhood water systems!

In order to get a better chance to get this going faster, we are also going to send letters to the Rainer Community Center, Starbucks, Tutta Bella Neapolitan Pizzeria, and Geraldine's Counter are a block or two away from where you are located. Our plan is to set up a bin inside your establishment and pick them up at the end of the week (Friday). If you have any questions, call our teacher, Richard Brown at 206-722-2369.

Thank you, and we really appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely, TAF Students