U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii – Environmental Compliance Guide

## **TONER & INK CARTRIDGES**

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Every year an estimated 300 million inkjet and 70 million laser cartridges are sold in the US and each year over 300 million cartridges are thrown away contributing an estimated 75,000 tons to US landfills.

Keep these recyclable cartridges out of Oahu's precious landfills by recycling and buying remanufactured cartridges. Buying recycled cartridges drastically reduces the virgin materials and energy required for manufacturing when compared to buying new ones.

## WASTE CHARACTERIZATION

The plastics used in printer cartridges are made of an engineering grade polymer that have a very slow decomposing rate ranging between 450 to 1000 years depending on the cartridge type. Ink cartridges may also leak printer ink polluting the surrounding environment.

• Up to 97 percent of the materials that make up a printer cartridge can be recycled or reused.

## HANDLING AND DISPOSAL PROCEDURES

- Printer cartridges can be refilled up to 5-7 times before reaching the end of their life.
- Place your empty toner cartridges in their original boxes, marked "recycle", next to your recycling bins—call (808) 656-9911 to request a pickup or drop them off at the ARC, 1087-B McMahon Road, Schofield Barracks.
- All brands of inkjet and laser toner cartridges accepted.

Sources: EPA, Clover Technology's Sustainability Report and Earth911.org



For more info contact: DPW Environmental Solid Waste and Recycling Program at

(808) 656-5411 or (808) 656-3085