

Clearing Out the Clutter: Equipment Disposal Project

When was the last time you saw a mimeograph? Do you know what one is? Park Managers 1 Joshua Bell and Roger Tenant, Jr. do now, thanks to a recent, department-wide equipment disposal project. Under the coordination of Special Projects Manager John Piller, and the leadership of Regional Managers Susan Buck and Paul Dignam, Philadelphia Parks & Recreation cleared its recreation centers, playgrounds, and offices of **772 pieces of outdated equipment**.



After a list of items to be removed was cleared with Procurement, Grounds Maintenance workers picked up equipment ranging from printers, to fax machines, to filing cabinets, and transported the items to the Car Barn. Meanwhile, Josh and Roger rounded up their own collection of keyboards, monitors, telephones and more from the 10th floor of One Parkway Building and Wissahickon Hall and joined John Ebo at the Car Barn to turn a roomful of dusty throwaways into organized pallets for recycling or scrapping.

Among the work to do: Destroying **186 hard drives** for security purposes before sending them off to be recycled. And determining what to do with some of the more "miscellaneous" items like treadmills and foosball tables.

Altogether, the gathered equipment, once stacked and wrapped, totaled **30 pallets**. Any guesses how much that will weigh when picked up for its journey to Waste Management or the scrapyard?



Josh and Roger admired PPR staff's "green" mentality—saving items instead of tossing them in the trash—but feel satisfied that they helped clear clutter from our sites.

A new Equipment Removal Policy is in the works to simplify this process in the future (we are not accepting any new disposals in the interim), so stay tuned to the newsletter for updates. Until then, congratulations to everyone who participated in this successful cross-divisional effort!