

# Helping to Tackle the Climate Crisis through the GSA Office of Personal Property Management



## The GSA Office of Personal Property Management (PPM) is a reuse program

The Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (codified as Title 40 of the United States Code) established GSA and PPM to maximize reuse of the government's personal property at its end of life. Similar to recycling, reuse refers to finding new uses for items instead of sending them to landfills.

### Reuse is sustainable

One way to support sustainability and mitigate climate change is by extending the useful life of assets. We all try to be sustainable by recycling things such as plastic water bottles, soda cans, newspapers, and scrap paper. Recyclers of computers and other electronic equipment conserve resources and minimize what is dumped into landfills by extracting usable components and materials, such as gold and silver.

Reuse is also sustainable. By extending the useful life of property, reuse:

- Keeps products and supplies out of the waste mainstream
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions associated with the production and distribution of new items
- Ensures assets acquired with tax-payer dollars continue to benefit communities across the country

GSA's Office of Personal Property Management (PPM) plays an important role in helping agencies move in that direction.

## GSA offers numerous personal property reuse programs

**Internal Screening Program:** GSA also offers a tool to facilitate the reuse of personal property within your agency prior to reporting the property to GSA. This tool – the Agency Asset Management System (AAMS) – not only supports reuse, but may also reduce your agency's need for new procurements. The Federal Management Regulation requires agencies to conduct internal screening within the agency before declaring property "excess." Unlike our other property programs provided at no cost to our customers, AAMS is offered by GSA to other agencies as a fee-for-service program.

**Utilization Program:** Your agency plays an important role in creating a sustainable environment by utilizing GSA's reuse programs. After your agency reports items it no longer needs to GSA, we offer the items as excess property to other federal agencies, their contractors, and grantees for their use. Generally, excess property is offered for reuse at no cost except for shipping and handling. Federal activities can report, search for (a.k.a. screen), and request excess property for transfer at [www.gsaccess.gov](http://www.gsaccess.gov).



**Computers for Learning Program:** GSA supports the Computers for Learning (CFL) Program by hosting a CFL website where schools and educational non-profits can view and request available excess computer equipment reported to GSA by federal agencies through [www.gsaccess.gov](http://www.gsaccess.gov). Property is available to registered schools and educational non-profits before it is screened for federal agencies. Public and private schools can screen and request your excess computers and related peripheral tools at [www.computersforlearning.gov](http://www.computersforlearning.gov).

**Federal Surplus Personal Property Donation Program:** If the reported items are not needed by federal activities, they are determined to be surplus to the needs of the government and are available for reuse to public agencies and eligible non-profit recipients. Property is screened in PPMS and transferred through State Agencies for Surplus Property (SASPs) established in each state, territory, and the District of Columbia, as well as to public airports through the Federal Aviation Administration. Generally, surplus property is offered from the government at no cost to donees except for shipping and handling, and the SASPs may levy a service-and-handling charge. To locate your local SASP, visit [www.gsa.gov/sasp](http://www.gsa.gov/sasp).

**Sales Program:** If the reported items are not needed by federal activities or donees, we continue to support reuse by offering the property for sale as surplus property to the public. Most sales of surplus and exchange/sale property are conducted online through [www.gsaauctions.gov](http://www.gsaauctions.gov). However, we will occasionally conduct live auctions, negotiated sales, sealed-bid sales, and fixed-price sales. Sales of usable items can also be considered reuse because property is positioned for reuse in the commercial sector.

**Get answers to your questions about sustainable disposal**

Our network of Area Property Officers (APOs) throughout the nation should be your first point of contact when seeking help in supporting sustainability through reuse. You can determine the APO serving your geographic area at [www.gsa.gov/apo](http://www.gsa.gov/apo).

