



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Program  
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BOB MARTIN  
Commissioner

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO  
Lt. Governor

To New Jersey Waste Hauler;

I am writing to you regarding "The Electronic Waste Management Act" (the Act) (N.J.S.A. 13:1E-99, et seq.) to request your assistance as this Act is implemented. An important provision of this Act is a disposal ban of "covered electronic devices". Covered electronic devices include televisions, computers, monitors and portable/laptop computers. This disposal ban becomes effective on **January 1, 2011**.

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection (Department) is preparing an outreach campaign to alert and educate the public about the requirements of the law; however, you may also wish to reach out to your customers, since you will be prohibited from transporting these items for disposal as solid waste as of January 1, 2011. This can be accomplished by way of a simple line in a customer's billing statement stating that a new law prohibits the disposal of computers and televisions with waste, or through any other means you think appropriate. For more information regarding what to do with and where to take covered electronic devices, please feel free to direct your clients to the Department's "E-cycling" website [http://www.state.nj.us/dep/dshw/recycling/Electronic\\_Waste/index.html](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/dshw/recycling/Electronic_Waste/index.html)

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Dana Lawson of the Bureau of Recycling and Planning by email at [Dana.Lawson@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:Dana.Lawson@dep.state.nj.us) or by telephone at (609) 984-3438.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Sincerely,

Guy J. Watson  
Bureau Chief  
Recycling and Planning

IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
(609) 984-1795  
Dec. 28, 2010  
(609) 292-2994

Contact: Lawrence Hajna  
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COMMISSIONER MARTIN REMINDS RESIDENTS THAT COMPUTERS  
AND TVS MUST BE  
RECYCLED STARTING JAN. 1

(10/P148) TRENTON - Department of Environmental Protection  
Commissioner Bob

Martin today reminded New Jersey residents that old TVs, computers and  
computer monitors - items known collectively as electronic waste, or e-  
waste

- must be recycled as of the beginning of the new year, as required by the  
Electronic Waste Management Act.

"We expect a smooth transition thanks to the work of municipalities,  
counties and manufacturers who have been cooperating closely with the  
DEP to  
coordinate their efforts," Commissioner Martin said. "Everyone has been  
working hard to make sure residents will have ample opportunities for  
recycling their electronic waste."

The Electronic Waste Management Act bans the disposal of televisions  
and all  
personal or portable computers - including desktop, notebook and laptop  
computers, as well as computer monitors - in the regular waste stream  
beginning Jan. 1, 2011. Manufacturers of these devices will now be  
funding  
the collection of e-waste so that it is free for consumers.

The new law means residents can no longer put TVs, computers and  
monitors  
out on the curb for pickup under regular solid waste collection programs.  
Many residents will have to take these items to a drop-off point, such as a  
county or municipal solid waste collection center or a participating  
electronics retail store. Some municipalities already conduct special  
curbside pickup programs for recycling of e-waste and are expected to  
continue doing this.

All 21 counties and many municipalities already have e-waste recycling

programs in place. These include special collection events and drop-off points. Best Buy stores and community-based service programs, most notably Goodwill Industries and the Salvation Army, also accept these materials. In many cases, manufacturers will simply pick up the cost of operating these existing programs.

Residents should contact their county solid waste agency or municipal recycling coordinator for e-waste recycling options currently available in their communities. These options will continue to grow in the coming year. The DEP also is compiling a resource list to assist residents in finding collection points. A working draft of the list is available at [www.recyclenj.org](http://www.recyclenj.org)

"We still have some work to do," Commissioner Martin said. "Over the next several months, the Electronic Waste Management Act will help us fill in gaps to ensure that all covered waste is recycled and that everyone has convenient options. Equally important, this law raises public awareness about the importance of recycling these materials."

Electronic waste makes up about two percent of the solid waste disposed in New Jersey. Because of the high consumer demand for new technologies, electronic waste is also growing two to three times faster than any other component of the solid waste stream, according to the federal Environmental Protection Agency. TVs, computers and computer monitors contain lead, mercury, cadmium and other toxins. Cathode Ray Tubes, or CRTs, in particular contain large amounts of lead that is used to shield consumers from radiation.

The DEP estimates that the program will prevent 50 million pounds of electronic waste from being sent to solid waste facilities during its first year. The law also contains strict provisions to ensure that, once collected, the materials are recycled properly and in accordance with state and federal laws. Manufacturers must ensure that these devices are not exported for disposal in a manner that poses a risk to public health or the environment.

Manufacturers must be properly registered with the DEP and participating in the program in order to sell covered devices in New Jersey. Most

manufacturers have already registered and full compliance is expected.

The DEP is currently developing rules establishing methodologies for determining market shares for television manufacturers and return shares based on weight for other covered electronic devices for the purposes of apportioning responsibility for program costs among manufacturers. The development of these rules does not affect the ongoing establishment of collection programs.

The Electronic Waste Management Act does not cover cell phones, DVD players, VCRs, game consoles, or other electronic devices, although some retailers and service organizations provide opportunities for recycling these items.