

e-cycling

Sidney & Williston

What can I bring?

“E-waste” refers to a wide range of electronic products. Examples include:

- Computers and Components
- Cell phones and Fax machines
- TVs and VCRs
- Copiers
- Stereos
- Other specialized electronic equipment used in hospitals, law enforcement, manufacturing and even the oil fields.

Microwaves and vacuums are also acceptable, although not other appliances.

What will it cost?*

For this special event, our e-cycler, Tatooine Electronic Systems, Inc., will charge 40 cents per pound for all eligible e-waste items. That means a typical desktop computer, weighing around 70 pounds, will cost about \$28.00 to recycle. **However**, donations from local businesses and organizations are expected to discount this cost for many of our “e-erase your e-waste” participants. Please watch for details in your local media.

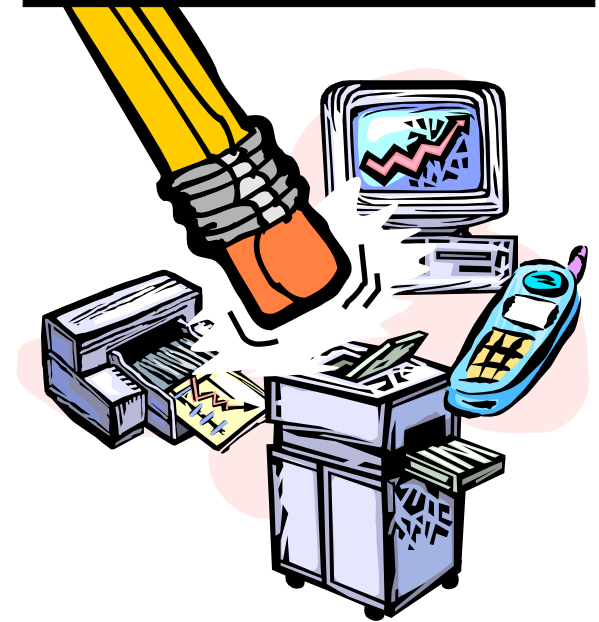
** Please note: E-waste in Montana and North Dakota is not yet regulated and in many instances can legally be disposed of in any landfill, although some do charge a fee, including Williston's. However, many individuals and businesses opt for e-cycling where available to eliminate toxic substances from entering landfills.*

e-erase your e-waste!

More reasons to e-cycle!

- As we become increasingly dependent on electronic products to make life more convenient, the stockpile of used, obsolete products grows. The National Safety Council estimates that there are 300 to 500 million obsolete computers in the U.S., ready for disposal, but currently only 11% of PCs are recycled; with the percentage for televisions and mainframes recycled even lower.
- Computer monitors and older TV picture tubes contain an average of four pounds of lead and require special handling at the end of their lives. Some studies predict that a large number of today's televisions will be discarded when high definition models become widely available.
- Extending the life of your electronics or donating your most up-to-date and working electronics can save you money and saves valuable resources. Safely recycling outdated electronics keeps as much as 98.5% of e-waste out of our landfills.
- In their most recent legislative sessions, 22 states and the city of New York introduced bills to regulate e-waste.

The artwork for this brochure was developed by USDA-ARS in Sidney, MT, to promote its first e-cycling event held in the Spring of 2005. To encourage others to e-cycle, it is made freely available to individuals and organizations interested in adapting it for their own events. For more information, contact Jackie Couture at Jackie.Couture@ars.usda.gov



e-erase your e-waste!

*Sidney, MT - Sept. 7
Williston, ND - Sept. 8*

**Join us for this unique,
cross-border, cooperative
event to safely recycle
unwanted electronics!**

Event Coordinators:
Richland Co. LEPC, ROI, and USDA-ARS in Sidney,
with help from CERT and Richland Co. Health Dept.
Upper Missouri District Health Unit in Williston

e-cycle!



e-erase your e-waste at our *cooperative* community e-cycling event!

e-waste is a popular, informal name for electronic products nearing the end of their "useful life." Computers, televisions, VCRs, stereos, copiers, mobile phones and fax machines are common electronic products that make up one of the fastest growing segments of our nation's waste stream. Because of the heavy metals and other toxic substances contained in electronic products, and increasing concern for their impact on the environment, members of the Richland County (MT) Local Emergency Planning Committee, Richland Opportunities, Inc., and USDA-ARS Northern Plains Agricultural Research Laboratory in Sidney, MT joined together to conduct their first annual

community-wide e-cycling event in 2005, only the second such event held in the state. Now in its third year, the Sidney "e-erase your e-waste" event has collected more than **17,700 lbs.** of electronic waste for recycling/reuse and has inspired other communities to establish their own e-cycling events, including Williston. This year, Sidney and Williston will hold a unique, back-to-back e-cycling event on **Friday, Sept. 7 (in Sidney)** and **Saturday, Sept. 8 (in Williston)**. The Williston event is being coordinated by the Upper Missouri District Health Unit with organizers in both communities using the same Wyoming recycling company, **Tatooine Electronic Systems, Inc.**, and sharing education and publicity materials.

SIDNEY, MT

Friday, Sept. 7, 2007

USDA-ARS Northern Plains Ag Research Lab
1500 North Central Avenue

Times:

8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Cost:

40 cents/lb. (Discounts may be available.)

Contacts:

Jackie Couture - 406-433-9422
Cindy Oleson - 406-488-3341

WILLISTON, ND

Saturday, Sept. 8, 2007

Wal-Mart Supercenter
4001 2nd Avenue West

Times:

8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Cost:

40 cents/lb. (Discounts may be available.)

Contacts:

Melissa Meiners - 701-774-6400
Debbie Richter - 701-774-6400

e-waste

Why recycle?

- 133,000 PCs are discarded each day in US.
- As little as 1/70th of a teaspoon of mercury can make the fish in a 20-acre lake unfit to eat. It would take **less than 5 1/2 cups** of mercury to make all of the fish in Lake Sakakawea unfit to eat.
- E-waste contains several hazardous chemicals and heavy metals significantly affecting human health, among them lead, mercury, cadmium and brominated flame retardants (BFRs).
- Already, consumer electronic products account for more than 40 percent of the lead found in landfills.
- Obsolete computers will soon account for more than one billion pounds of lead, 1.9 million pounds of cadmium, 1.2 million pounds of chromium, and nearly 400,000 pounds of mercury.
- 130 million cell phones are retired each year.
- 220 million tons of old computers and other technological hardware are trashed in the United States each year.

