

More **e-cycling** opportunities!

...in Richland County, MT

The Richland County Solid Waste Department has again joined the “E-erase your E-waste” team to expand electronics recycling in the county. The Solid Waste Department will be helping to collect e-waste at Richland County Public Works (county shop) in Sidney to accommodate those residents unable to participate in the Sept. 11-12 community E-erase your E-waste event.

Collection days and times at the county shop site are:

Thursdays, Aug. 13, 20, 27 & Sept. 3

11 am to 2 pm

2104 W. Holly, Sidney, MT

We're sorry, but general discounts being offered at the September community collection event will NOT be available for these alternative collections. That means the cost to those e-cycling their items at the county shop will remain 40 cents per pound. However, special discounts for specific products may apply.

Our thanks to the Solid Waste Department for providing this service to local residents interested in recycling their obsolete electronics to preserve our environment!

...through manufacturers and large retailers

Not everyone interested in recycling their old electronics can make a weekend recycling event. And as interest in e-cycling has grown, a number of new programs have arisen, at least for computers. Companies like Dell, Gateway and Apple all have recycling options for their customers, although the requirements can vary.

Typically those larger computer manufacturers allow their customers to return their old computers for **free**, but participants in some programs must pay shipping charges and abide by specific packaging instructions. In some instances, manufacturers may apply discounts to new computer purchases made by their customers returning old computers. A few manufacturer recycling websites include:

www.dell.com

www.gateway.com

www.apple.com

In addition, some larger electronics retailers, such as Best Buy, have pilot programs providing free electronics recycling at selected stores. If successful, the company may expand the program nationwide. For more info:

<http://www.bestbuy.com/recycling>

e-cycling gets results!

- Since 2005, Montana has kept 1,033,013 lbs of E-waste out of its local landfills.
- Since 2005, Richland County has kept 82,221 lbs. or 41.1 tons of e-waste including 5,017 lbs. of lead, 1.17 lbs. of mercury and 10,863 lbs. of plastic, from entering our local landfill.
- Since 2007, Williston, ND collected 35,947 lbs of e-waste in its first two public events.
- In the spring of 2009, Minot State University Public Health Nursing program students collected 10,599 lbs in the first community-wide event held in that North Dakota city.

e-erase your **e-waste!**

...recognized by White House!

Richland County's E-erase your E-waste Committee received an Honorable Mention in the 2009 White House “Closing the Circle” Award program for its electronic stewardship efforts. Nationwide, there were only 15 winners and 13 honorable mentions awarded this year in seven categories. The E-erase your E-waste Committee's Honorable Mention award was in the electronics stewardship category for its rural e-cycling program. The White House “Closing the Circle” awards recognize innovative electronics management and recycling programs undertaken by federal government agencies and their partners.

Our local partners include...

In addition to USDA-ARS in Sidney, MT, members of the E-erase your E-waste team include: Richland Co. Local Emergency Planning Committee, Sidney Health Center, Richland Opportunities, Inc., Richland Co. Disaster and Emergency Services, Richland Co. Health Department, Richland Co. IT Dept., Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Association, Richland Co. Public Works, Richland Co. Solid Waste, Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, and Community Emergency Response Team.

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. 11-12
Williston, ND - Sept. 11-12

Join us for our third, 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 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 fifth year, the Sidney "e-erase your e-waste" event collected more than **46,040 lbs.** of electronic waste for recycling/reuse in 2008 and, equally important, has inspired other communities to establish their own e-cycling events, Williston, ND among them. Organizers of Williston's event last year collected more than **24,425 lbs.** of electronic waste. (For more totals, see "E-cycling gets results!")

This year, Sidney and Williston are hosting their third joint e-cycling event on **Friday and Saturday, Sept. 11-12 (in both communities)**. 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

Fri. & Sat., Sept. 11-12, 2009

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

Times:

Fri: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. / Sat: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Cost:

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

Contacts:

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

WILLISTON, ND

Fri. & Sat., Sept. 11-12, 2009

Wal-Mart Supercenter
4001 2nd Ave. West

Times:

Fri: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. / Sat: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Cost:

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

Contacts:

Dan Saint - 701-774-6408
Upper Missouri District Health Unit

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. Thanks to our generous donors you can get **75% off** when you recycle your old **analog television** set at this year's E-erase your E-waste event in Sidney (restrictions apply). 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-waste

Why recycle?

- 133,000 PCs are discarded each day in U.S. and 130 million cell phones retired each year.
- 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 and **only 9 1/2 gallons** of mercury to contaminate Fort Peck Lake.
- E-waste contains several hazardous chemicals and heavy metals significantly affecting human health, among them lead, mercury, cadmium and brominated flame retardants.
- 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.
- The consumer electronic association predicts that in 2009, we will buy 34.5 million digital TVs in the U.S., up from 26.8 million in 2008. The EPA estimates that there are over **99 million** TVs stockpiled or stored in US (2007 figures). Cell phone sales are projected to exceed **1 billion** units per year in 2009.
- International Association of Electronic Recyclers projections indicate more than **400 million** consumer electronic units become obsolete annually.

