



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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New State TV & Computer Recycling Law

New York State has a new law mandating e-waste recycling, joining 22 other states that had already done so.

What is e-waste? Your home computers, monitors, TVs, printers, DVDs, VCRs and MP3 players are all considered electronic wastes, or “e-waste” for short. E-wastes often contain lead, cadmium, mercury or other potentially toxic substances that can be released to water and air if the e-waste is improperly disposed.

What’s the new law do? Electronic manufacturers selling products in New York State must begin offering free e-waste collection programs by April 1, 2011. Also, the new law bans landfilling e-wastes. For more details, visit the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation’s website at www.dec.ny.gov.

“Locally, this means that recycling TVs and home computers should be FREE beginning in April of 2011” according to Bruce Natale, who coordinates collection event for Cayuga County. “All the details won’t be worked out until January or February of 2011, but hopefully we’ll know more before our May 2011 Earth Week e-waste collection.”

The law is expected to encourage manufacturers to produce electronic equipment that is more easily recycled, contains fewer toxic materials and is more readily repaired.

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