

## Oregon E-Cycles: What Consumers Need to Know

Oregon E-Cycles, established by Oregon's Electronics Recycling Law, is a new program that provides electronics recycling at no cost to households, small businesses and nonprofits, and anyone with seven or fewer items to recycle. Oregon E-Cycles is financed by electronics manufacturers, and will be in operation after Jan. 1, 2009.

### What electronics are covered by Oregon E-Cycles?

Computers (both desktops and laptops), monitors, and televisions are eligible for recycling at no charge through Oregon E-Cycles.

### Where can I find an Oregon E-Cycles collection site?

#### *Before Jan. 1, 2009:*

Electronics recycling options may currently be available in your area. However, a fee may be required. To locate a recycler near you, see DEQ's Web site at: <http://www.deq.state.or.us/lq/ewaste/ewasterecyclers.htm>.

#### *After Jan. 1, 2009:*

Collection services will be available in every county and at least one collection site will be available in every city with a population of 10,000 or more.

After Jan. 1, 2009, visit Oregon E-Cycles' Web site at <http://www.deq.state.or.us/lq/electronics.htm> for a list of Oregon E-Cycles collection services and sites near you.

### Why is electronics recycling needed?

Old electronics are piling up at an alarming rate. Oregonians have millions of pounds of computers, monitors and televisions stored in their homes and garages. That's in addition to a wide variety of other electronics items that are discarded or recycled annually.

Electronics contain hazardous substances such as lead, cadmium and mercury that can harm our health and the environment. Electronics also contain such materials as copper, gold and aluminum, which can be recovered. Recycling keeps toxics out of our landfills and incinerators and promotes the reuse of valuable materials in new products. Beginning Jan. 1, 2010, the

disposal of computers, monitors and televisions will be prohibited in Oregon.

### How do I recycle other electronics?

Other devices, such as computer peripherals (keyboards, mice, etc.), DVD players, VCRs, video game consoles, printers, scanners, fax machines and cell phones, are **NOT** covered under Oregon E-Cycles.

However, recyclers in your area may currently take these items, usually for a fee. If you live in the Portland Metro area, call Metro's Recycling Information Hotline at 503-234-3000 or visit <http://www.oregonmetro.gov>. If you live outside the Portland Metro area, call your local solid waste or public works office.

#### **Effective Jan. 1, 2009:**

Households, small businesses and nonprofits and anyone with seven or fewer items may recycle their computers, monitors and televisions at participating Oregon E-Cycles collection sites at no charge.

This is a permanent program, and recycling services will be available year-round.

### What other options do I have?

If your computer, monitor or television is in working condition, consider these options before taking them for recycling.

**Repair and/or upgrade it.** A computer or television repair shop can often make your "broken" electronics new again with simple repairs. Upgrading a few parts in an old computer can also be a cost-effective alternative to buying a new one.

**Reuse it.** Save memory space on your new computer by designating the old one for a specific task, like word processing or hosting your music collection. An old television can serve as a second set in another room, or be used for games and/or movies.

**Donate it.** Just because you can't use it doesn't mean someone else can't! Give your old computer, monitor or television to a family member, friend or student in need. If you don't know anyone who could use your old working



State of Oregon  
Department of  
Environmental  
Quality

### Land Quality Division

#### Oregon E-Cycles

811 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Portland, OR 97204

Phone: (503) 229-5830

(800) 452-4011

Fax: (503) 229-6977

Contact: Kelly Panciera

[www.oregon.gov/DEQ](http://www.oregon.gov/DEQ)

electronics, donate them to a second-hand store, charity, or reuse organization.

**Will I need a new television after the switch to digital TV in Feb. 2009?**

No. Analog televisions will continue to work after the switch if connected to cable or satellite service. If you have an analog television and use an antenna, you must purchase a converter box to continue to receive programming.

Until March 31, 2009, households can request up to two \$40 coupons from the federal government toward the purchase of converter boxes. To request coupons, visit the TV Converter Box Coupon Program's Web site at <http://www.dtv2009.gov> or call 1-888-388-2009.

For more information on the digital switch, see DEQ's Q&A, *Don't Toss That TV! What to Do With Your Old TV Set*, at <http://www.deq.state.or.us/lq/pubs/docs/sw/DontTossThatTVQA.pdf>.

**For more information**

For more information on Oregon E-Cycles, visit DEQ's Web site at <http://www.deq.state.or.us/lq/electronics.htm>.

For questions about Oregon E-Cycles, please email [ewaste.info@deq.state.or.us](mailto:ewaste.info@deq.state.or.us)

**Alternative formats**

Alternative formats (such as large type or Braille) of this document can be made available. Contact DEQ's Office of Communications & Outreach at (503) 229-5696, Portland, or call toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 5696, for more information.