



June 17, 2009

## Hazardous Waste: Where to Take Items This Summer

Community cleanup days ended in Spring and won't start again until October. So where do you take old electronics in the meantime? Remember, you can't throw them away with the regular trash OR blue can recycling because of toxic materials in the items, such as cadmium, lead, and mercury. In a landfill, these eventually seep into the ground where it can get into the water system.

The following places will accept E-waste for free:

**Best Buy** accepts the following electronics from California customers (limit 2 units per day, per household): TV's and computer monitors up to 32," computer CPUs and notebooks, computer accessories such as keyboards, mice, and remotes, small electronics, VCR and DVD players, and phones. The following can be placed in the collection kiosks between the sliding doors: cell phones, CDs & DVDs, inkjet cartridges, PDA/smart phones and rechargeable batteries.



**Billy Wright Landfill**, Los Banos, accepts electronics, up to 3 car/truck batteries per resident, CFL bulbs and fluorescent tubes, used motor oil and used oil filters. Drop off facility is located to the right of the scale house. Hours: Mon.-Sat. 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Sun. noon-4:00 p.m.

**Diamond C. Enterprises** accepts all electronics such as cell phones, computers, office machines, DVD and VCR players, microwaves, stereos, and TVs. Call 209-261-8646 to make appointment.

**Goodwill Industries** accepts computer monitors and other computer equipment.

**Merced County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility** takes all electronics from households. Businesses need to call to pre-register and pre-pay before visiting the facility on Highway 59 in Merced. This site also accepts antifreeze, non-empty aerosol cans, car/truck batteries, CFLs and fluorescent tubes, fertilizer, household batteries, paint, used motor oil, and oil filters. Maximum amount of HHW accepted per vehicle is 15 gallons of liquid or 125 pounds of solid. Hours Mon.-Fri. 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Sat. 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

**Universal Service Recycling**, Merced, accepts (and offers payments) for all electronics, including appliances. Universal also accepts car/truck batteries, tractor batteries, and metal.

**Unicor Federal Prison Industries**, Atwater, accepts all electronics. Call 209-386-4861 before dropping off E-waste.