

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 7, 2006

Further Information:

Paul Nonnenmacher, (860) 757-7771 E-mail: <u>pnonnenmacher@crra.org</u> Tom Gaffey, (860) 757-7735 E-mail: <u>tgaffey@crra.org</u>

CRRA Announces Spring Electronics Recycling Collections Events Scheduled in Essex, Wilton, Meriden, Fairfield, Torrington

HARTFORD, Conn. – Electronics continue to become more powerful and less expensive, so more and more people are replacing their computers, VCRs, cellular telephones, printers, answering machines and other electronic gear. But what to do with the old units?

The Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority (CRRA) will provide the answer with another series of its popular consumer electronics recycling collections this spring.

"Thousands of Connecticut residents have turned to CRRA to provide safe, free disposal of their residential electronics under this program," said Thomas P. Gaffey, CRRA manager of recycling and enforcement. "Since we began these recycling programs in 1999, we have kept more than two million pounds of electronics from being buried in landfills."

The pileup of used electronics is becoming a nationwide concern:

- Americans will scrap about 400 million units of consumer electronics each year in this decade, according to the International Association of Electronics Recyclers.
- Between 2000 and 2007, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that over 500 million personal computers will become obsolete.

"By far, this has been CRRA's most popular program," Gaffey said. "We have had more requests about this topic than any other on our Web site. Connecticut's residents are extremely environmentally aware, and almost instinctively have held onto their old computers, televisions, and other electronic equipment, not wanting to throw them in the trash."

-more-

CRRA Electronics recycling collections Page 2

In all, CRRA will sponsor five electronics recycling collections this spring:

- <u>Saturday, April 22, in Essex</u>, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the CRRA transfer station, Town Dump Road (off Exit 4 of Route 9). This collection is for residents of Mid-Connecticut Project-member towns only.
- <u>Saturday, April 29, in Wilton</u>, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Wilton High School, 395 Danbury Road, Route 7. This collection is for residents of Bridgeport Project-member towns only.
- <u>Saturday, May 6, in Meriden</u>, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Thomas Edison Middle School, 1355 North Broad Street. This collection is for residents of Wallingford Project-member towns only.
- <u>Saturday, May 20, in Fairfield</u>, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at McKinley School, 60 Thompson Street. This collection is for residents of Bridgeport Project-member towns only.
- <u>Saturday, June 3, in Torrington</u>, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Torrington Water Pollution Control on Bogue Road. This collection is for residents of Mid-Connecticut Project-member towns only.

Those interested in participating should call their city or town public works departments to see whether their towns are eligible and which collection will accept their recyclables.

The Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority is a quasi-public agency whose mission is to work for – and in – the best interests of the municipalities of the state of Connecticut. CRRA's new board of directors and new management team develop and implement environmentally sound solutions and best practices for solid waste disposal and recycling management on behalf of municipalities. CRRA also runs environmental and recycling educational programs through its Visitors Center and Trash Museum in Hartford and Children's Garbage Museum in Stratford. For more information about CRRA and its activities, visit http://www.crra.org.

—30—

Editors: A list of towns served by CRRA's Mid-Connecticut, Wallingford and Bridgeport projects is attached.



BACKGROUNDER Further Information:

Paul Nonnenmacher, (860) 757-7771 E-mail: <u>pnonnenmacher@crra.org</u>

CRRA Mid-Connecticut Project Towns

Avon Barkhamsted Beacon Falls Bethlehem Bloomfield Bolton Canaan Canton Chester Clinton Colebrook Cornwall Coventry Cromwell Deep River Durham East Granby East Hampton

East Hartford East Windsor Ellington Enfield Essex Farmington Glastonbury Goshen Granby Guilford Haddam Hartford Harwinton Hebron Killingworth Litchfield Lyme Madison

Manchester Marlborough Middlebury Middlefield Naugatuck New Hartford Newington Norfolk North Branford North Canaan Old Lyme Old Saybrook Oxford Portland Rocky Hill Roxbury Salisbury Sharon

Simsbury South Windsor Southbury Suffield Thomaston Tolland Torrington Vernon Waterbury Watertown West Hartford Westbrook Wethersfield Winchester Windsor Locks Woodbury

CRRA Bridgeport Project Towns

Bethany Bridgeport Darien East Haven Easton Fairfield Greenwich Milford Monroe New Canaan (delivers recyclables but not trash)

Norwalk Orange Shelton Stamford Stratford Trumbull

Weston Westport Wilton Woodbridge

CRRA Wallingford Project Towns

Cheshire Hamden Meriden North Haven Wallingford

—30—