



CONNECTICUT RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY

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CRRA Announces Fall Electronics Recycling Collections Events Scheduled in Torrington, Essex; More to Be Announced



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 fall.

“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 1.8 million pounds of electronics from being buried in landfills.”

The pileup of used electronics is becoming a nationwide concern:

- Americans discard 12 million to 14 million computer systems each year, and by 2005 that number may increase to 45 million annually, according to a recent study by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
- Americans will scrap about 400 million units of consumer electronics each year in this decade, according to the International Association of Electronics Recyclers.
- Over 315 million computers will become obsolete by 2004, according to the National Safety Council.

“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.”

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The electronics recycling collections will be held in CRRA's Mid-Connecticut Project communities:

- **Saturday, Oct. 2, in Torrington**, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Torrington Water Pollution Control on Bogue Road. This collection is open to residents of Mid-Connecticut Project-member towns only.
- **Saturday, Oct. 9, in Essex**, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the CRRA transfer station, Town Dump Road (off Exit 4 of Route 9). This collection is open to residents of Mid-Connecticut Project-member towns only.

More dates in other parts of the state will be announced later this month.

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>.