

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CRRA Sets Westport Electronics Recycling Nov. 18 Collection Also for Residents of All Bridgeport Project Towns

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 residents of 20 cities and towns the answer with another of its popular consumer electronics recycling collections on Saturday, Nov. 18, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Westport/Weston Health District, 180 Bayberry Lane, Westport.

"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. "E-waste is the fastest growing segment of the waste stream. Since we began these recycling programs in 1999, we have kept nearly two and a half 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."

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.

EDITORS: A list of participating towns follows.



BACKGROUNDER Further Information:

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CRRA Serves Bridgeport Project Towns

CRRA's Bridgeport Project serves these 20 communities:

Bethany Bridgeport Darien East Haven Easton Fairfield Greenwich

Milford Monroe New Canaan* Norwalk Orange Shelton Stamford Stratford Trumbull Weston Westport Wilton Woodbridge

* - New Canaan delivers recyclables but not trash to the Bridgeport Project.

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