

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 25, 2006

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CRRA Announces Fall Electronics Recycling Collections Events Set in Waterbury, Essex, Harwinton, Stamford, Watertown, North Haven

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 two million pounds of electronics from being buried in landfills."

In the spring of 2006 alone, CRRA collected nearly 320,000 pounds of recycled electronics.

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."

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In all, CRRA will sponsor six electronics recycling collections this fall:

- <u>Saturday, Sept. 16, in Waterbury</u>, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Waterbury Waste Water Treatment Facility, 210 Municipal Road. This collection is for residents of Mid-Connecticut Project towns only.
- <u>Saturday, Oct. 7, 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 towns only.
- <u>Saturday, Oct. 14, in Harwinton</u>, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Torrington Water Pollution Control Plant, 252 Bogue Road. This collection is for residents of Mid-Connecticut Project towns only.
- <u>Saturday, Oct. 21, in Stamford</u>, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Scalzi Park, Bridge Street. This collection is for residents of Bridgeport Project towns only.
- <u>Saturday, Oct. 28, in Watertown</u>, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Trumbull Primary School, 779 Buckingham Street. This collection is for residents of Mid-Connecticut Project towns only.
- <u>Saturday, Nov. 4, in North Haven</u>, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at North Haven High School, 221 Elm Street. This collection is for residents of Wallingford Project 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 board of directors and 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 Trash Museum in Hartford and Children's Garbage Museum in Stratford. For more information about CRRA and its activities, visit http://www.crra.org.

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