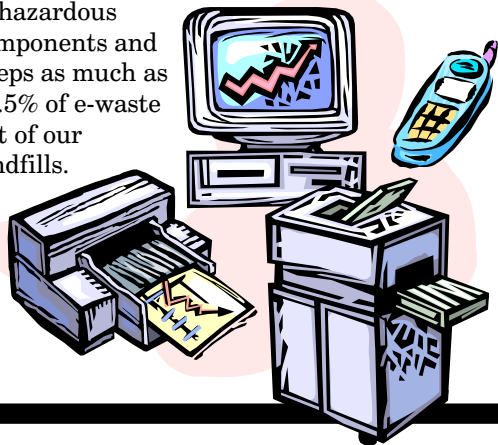


e-waste

What is it?

As we become more dependent on electronic products to make life more convenient, the stockpile of used, obsolete products grows. The National Safety Council predicts that between 315 million to 680 million computers will become obsolete in the U.S. in the next few years. The waste will contain more than 4 billion pounds of plastic, 1 billion pounds of lead, 1.9 million pounds of cadmium, 1.2 million pounds of chromium and nearly 400,000 pounds of mercury. Mobile phones will be discarded at an even higher rate, and some studies predict that a large number of today's televisions will be discarded when high definition models become widely available.

Computer monitors and older TV picture tubes contain an average of four pounds of lead and require special handling at the end of their lives. When electronics are not disposed of or recycled properly, these toxic materials can present problems. Extending the life of your electronics or donating your most up-to-date and working electronics can save you money and saves valuable resources. Safely recycling outdated electronics can promote the safe management of hazardous components and keeps as much as 98.5% of e-waste out of our landfills.



e-raise your e-waste!

Hosting your own e-cycling event

This e-cycling event is being coordinated by several local agencies as a community service. To encourage other communities, organizations and individuals to consider sponsoring their own e-cycling event, USDA-ARS-NPARL is making free samples of its "E-raise Your E-waste" promotional materials available to all interested parties on its website. The materials are designed so that you can adapt them to fit the needs of your community.

www.ars.usda.gov/npa/nparl

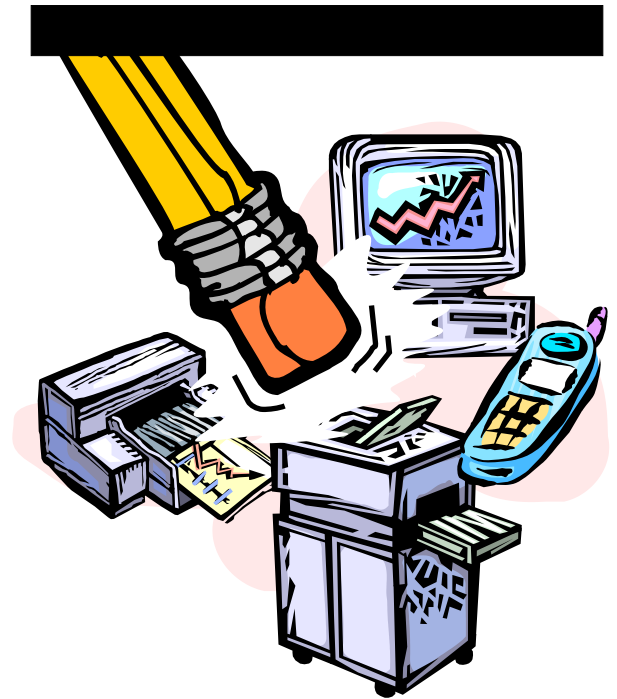
Select "Safety Information" from the lefthand navigation bar and then "E-raise your E-waste."

Other MT events...

Last year's e-cycling event in Sidney was only the 2nd ever held in the state and has become a model for others, according to the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. That agency has adopted our "*e-raise your e-waste*" slogan and is providing promotional support for e-cycling efforts in communities across the state. Other cities hosting e-cycling events in 2006 are: **Kalispell** (July 15), **Missoula** (July 29), **Butte** (Aug. 24), **Helena** (Sept. 15-16), **Bozeman** (Oct. 21) and **Billings** (TBA). For more information on these events, contact Sandra Boggs 406-841-5217 or sboggs@mt.gov.



For more information on the Richland County event, contact ARS Safety Officer Jackie Couture at 406-433-9422, or ROI Director Cindy Eleson at 406-488-3341.



e-raise your e-waste!

*Friday & Saturday
September 8-9, 2006*

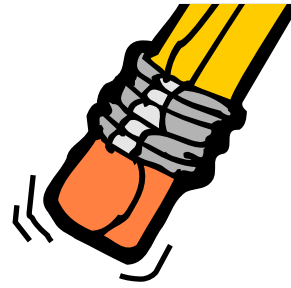
Where:

USDA-ARS Northern Plains Ag Research Lab
1500 North Central Avenue
Sidney, Montana

Times:

Friday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

e-cycle!



e-erase your e-waste...
at our **2nd** Community e-cycling Event!

e-waste is a popular, informal name for electronic products nearing the end of their "useful life." Computers, televisions, VCRs, stereos, copiers, mobile phones and fax machines are common electronic products that make up one of the fastest growing segments of our nation's waste stream.

Because of the heavy metals and other toxic substances contained in many electronic products, some states (including Wyoming) have begun to regulate their disposal in public landfills. While Montana is not yet among them, it may not be much longer before federal rules will require everyone to e-cycle.

In anticipation of that event and to once again offer area residents and businesses concerned about the impact e-waste has on our environment the option to e-cycle, the Richland County Local Emergency Planning Committee, Richland Opportunities, Inc., USDA-ARS Northern Plains Agricultural

Research Laboratory and the Retired Senior Volunteers/Community Emergency Response Team have joined together to bring in representatives from **Tatooine Electronic Systems, Inc.** (an electronic recycling company from Cheyenne, Wyoming) to conduct a community-wide e-cycling event on **September 8-9, 2006** in Sidney.

In its first e-cycling event, Richland County collected more than **8,385 lbs. or 4.2 tons** of electronic waste for recycling/reuse, thereby preventing its introduction into the Richland County landfill or any landfill since 98.5% of recycled e-waste can be reused elsewhere.

Come e-erase your e-waste at our e-cycling session!

Friday & Saturday, Sept. 8-9

8 a.m. - 6 p.m., Friday • 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Saturday

USDA-ARS Northern Plains Ag Research Lab
Parking Lot • 1500 N. Central • Sidney, MT

Our e-cycler for the event:

Tatooine Electronic Systems, Inc. • Cheyenne, WY
Billings, MT

e-cycling

Sept. 8-9

What can I bring?

"E-waste" refers to a wide range of electronic products. Examples include: computers and their components, cell phones, TVs, fax machines, copiers, VCRs, stereos and specialized electronic equipment used in businesses such as hospitals, law enforcement and manufacturing and even the oil fields. Even microwaves are acceptable, although not other appliances.

What day should I bring it?

Although we're hoping businesses with typically larger quantities to e-cycle will come Friday, September 8, both days are open to businesses and individuals alike.

*What will it cost?**

For this special event, Tatooine Electronic Systems, Inc. will charge 40 cents per pound for all eligible e-waste items. There may be an additional charge if a business or individual needs an official record certifying that an item was properly disposed of or destroyed. General recycling certificates, however, are provided without charge.

** Please note: E-waste in Montana is not yet regulated and in many instances can legally be disposed of in any landfill. The items, however, do contain toxic substances, which has prompted many individuals and businesses to opt for e-cycling where available.*