

New Rules for Disposing of Electronic Waste in Illinois

Republic Services wants to remind all customers that beginning January 1, 2012, Illinois' new e-waste law will ban electronic waste from being disposed in residential waste and recycling bins.

E-waste is the fastest-growing segment of the nation's garbage, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Reports have found that recycling electronics reduces pollution, saves energy, and conserves natural resources used to produce brand new devices. Although the law is focused on requiring manufacturers to recycle their used products, residents could be fined \$100 if caught throwing electronics in the garbage.

What is e-waste?

Electronic waste, also known as e-waste, refers to any electronic equipment or device that is near or at the end of its useful life. These products include:

- Televisions
- Monitors
- Printers
- Computers
- Keyboards
- Computer Mouse
- Fax machines
- MP3 players
- DVD players
- CD players
- Video game consoles
- Controllers
- Scanners
- Small scale servers
- Satellite Receiver

Republic intends to keep customers apprised of electronic waste collection and drop off locations offered by local authorities and recyclers. To assist in this effort, some electronic retailers are offering customers the opportunity to participate in an electronics recycling program for easy removal and responsible disposal of unwanted e-waste products.

County and municipal governments have posted drop off locations and registered contractors to collect e-waste on their websites. For more information on e-waste recycling, visit the U.S. EPA at www.epa.gov, the Illinois Recycling Association at www.IllinoisRecycles.org or www.Earth911.com.

