



THE RECYCLER

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Electronics Waste Banned Comes to Fort Collins

Earlier this year, Fort Collins City Council adopted a new ordinance that bans the collection of electronic waste from residential households within city limits. The law will be implemented over the coming months, with many details yet to be decided. The new ordinance will be similar to the existing state law that bans e-waste disposed of by businesses, schools, government and other industry. State law prohibits the disposal of any items that include a circuit board with the objective of keeping computers, monitors, TVs, and cell phones out of state landfills. In recent years we have seen the need for proper disposal of these items grow astronomically. Estimates for 2005 disposal of personal computers alone soar around 60 million units!

The ban is an important part of protecting the local environment and improving recycling efforts. Computers and monitors contain several materials that are considered HAZARDOUS by EPA standards, including lead, cadmium, mercury, chromium and other flame retardants. If these items are simply disposed of in the local landfill, there is the danger of groundwater and soil contamination which can lead to serious illnesses.



Before discarding any electronic devices into the trash, please consider your options, especially if the device is still in working condition. Recycling these items can be accomplished in a number of ways. First, whether it is your old cell phone, computer, monitor, VCR, or televisions, try to find it a new home. Working devices may be donated to a charity or handler that will ensure they get to someone who can still use them. If it no longer works, it may be turned over to a reputable e-waste recycler who can ensure that it is disassembled properly and materials, such as metals & plastics, are sent to be recycled to make new products. In most of these cases, working parts are sent back to manufacturers or others to create refurbished products.

As a GSI customer, it is very important to recognize that these items can no longer be disposed of at curbside with your regular household trash. Please call ahead to make special pickup arrangements with us for electronic items. We can add the cost of the collection to your current bill or you may pay separately for collection. We are working on details of how to best handle this special customer disposal need, but for the time being, we will continue to collect these items through SPECIAL PICKUP arrangements for larger items including televisions,

computers & monitors and items of similar size and larger. For small items such as calculators, cell phones, and rechargeable batteries, other local walk-in services are available. We are considering special events through neighborhood groups and HOA's as a part of our Neighborhood Clean-up Services where we would have someone onsite collecting these items (for a fee TBD) during your neighborhood clean-up event. Visit the sites listed for more information on e-waste recycling, area recyclers and more:

www.fcgov.com/recycling/computers-recycle.php

www.cdphe.state.co.us/hm/electronics/index.htm

www.greenerchoices.org/electronicsrecycling/el_home.cfm

Cartridges for Kids

One great way to start recycling your e-waste and similar items is to donate them to a local school of your choice through the local Cartridges for Kids Program. You can recycle your empty printer cartridges, cell phones, laptops, PDAs, iPods and more. Contact Wendy@Cartridgesforkids.com or call direct at 215-9026 for more information on how you can participate. Recycle today and be part of a school's future!

If you are interested in finding out more about these clean-ups, arrange a special pickup, or have suggestions for how we can meet the challenges of this new ordinance, please email us at CustService@GallegosSanitation.com. We really want to hear from you!

A Service to Fit Your Needs

Do you have the right service to fit your household's needs? You may want to consider your options. At Gallegos Sanitation, you always have a choice! We offer the widest range of service options in the area. For your home or business, we have a service we can tailor to your specific needs. As a Pay-As-You-Throw community, managing your trash helps you manage your pocketbook too! As service volumes increase, so does the cost. At the same time if your container is too small and every week you are setting out additional items, the extra charges may add to more than the next larger service level. As you can see, you may want to take a step up or down! Just look at some of the services we offer:

GSI Cart Services – our 35(limited), 65, 95-gallon size carts are clean and most convenient to use

Your Can Services – You may elect to use your own 30-33 Gallon trash cans or bags in service level increments of 1-Can, 2-Cans or 3-Cans per week

GSI BAG or TAG Services – You can elect to pay a small base fee & purchase Teal GSI bags from us for a fee that includes the service. You set out as many or as few as you need, when you need. Tag service is similar but we provide you with a sticker that you must fix to your own bags or around the handle of your own trash can. If you hardly have any waste, these are the services for you!

Remember Fort Collins & Loveland residents can sign up for unlimited recycling service for no additional charge to further reduce disposal costs. We now offer recycling in nearly all of Larimer and Western Weld County at a small fee based on participation and the area. Contact us today for more details!

Spring Clean-up Services

Getting ready to cleanup the old homestead for the summer? You have probably set aside the coming weekends to do the work, but have you thought of the extra waste you will generate through your cleaning efforts? Give us a call. We have a service to meet your needs. From One-Time pickups to Small Temporary dumpster rentals to large Neighborhood Clean-ups, we will take care of it.

Do you have an organized neighborhood group or HOA? Why not contact them and arrange a Neighborhood Clean-up this spring? It is an excellent way to meet neighbors, get rid of unwanted junk and debris, and get more volunteers involved in cleaning up neighborhood common areas too! Contact us to make the right arrangements today!

Don't You Love Lemonade?

It is once again time to mow lawns, trim trees and hedges, weed gardens and more. So, what do you do with this increased waste? Some mulch their grass; some have their compost piles; but over a thousand GSI customers use our curbside yardwaste collection program! From May – October, these customers don't worry about the odor from composting or tracking minced grass clippings that cling to feet and shoes throughout their homes. They simply go about their yard work, rolling their special 65-gallon yardwaste cart around the yard to where they need it, filling it as they go. They don't have to struggle loading their grass into plastic bags or worry about slipping a disk hauling them to the curb on trash day, let alone deal with it when they break! Have you ever smelled the stuff? It really stinks when you get that stuff on your hands; especially when it's several days old.

Come collection day, all Yardwaste customers have to do is wheel the cart to the curb, set out what ever doesn't fit in the cart (up to an extra 35-gallons worth, like a bundle of branches), and sip on their cool glass of lemonade...

It's never too late to start service, but why wait? Call us today! We'll supply the cart and the service. We hope you won't mind getting your own lemonade.

HOLIDAY ALERT!

Area Landfills are closed every year on the following holidays:
New Years Day - Memorial Day - Independence Day - Labor Day - Thanksgiving Day - Christmas Day

For 2007, if your pickup day falls ON or AFTER the following holiday **during the regular work week**, your normal pickup will be **delayed by one day**:

Memorial Day	Monday, May 28 th
Independence Day	Wednesday, July 4 th
Labor Day	Monday, September 3 rd
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 22 nd
Christmas Day	Tuesday, December 25 th
New Year's Day	Tuesday, January 1 st



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Visit us @ www.GallegosSanitation.com