



For Immediate Release

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Illinois Law Bans Electronics from Landfill

'Tis the Season to Recycle...! Electronics are some of the most popular gifts around the holiday season, but.... ***What do you do with last year's gadgets and all the old technology and equipment you are replacing?***

SWALCO (Solid Waste Agency of Lake County, IL) offers residents an opportunity to drop off their broken or unwanted electronics, at no cost, at one of its **Residential Electronics Recycling Collections** held at various locations throughout Lake County. In 2011 alone, SWALCO has recycled approximately two million pounds of electronics. Visit swalco.org for a list of accepted items and an updated list of drop-off locations and events. If your equipment is in good condition the agency encourages you to consider donating it to a charitable organization.

Beginning January 1, 2012, the **Illinois Electronic Products Recycling and Reuse Act** landfill ban for certain electronic devices will take effect. The following is a list of electronic items that can no longer be disposed of in the regular trash: Televisions, Monitors, Printers, Computers (including tablet computers), Electronic Keyboards, Facsimile Machines, Videocassette Recorders, Portable Digital Music Players, Digital Video Disc Players, Video Game Consoles, Small Scale Servers, Scanners, Electronic Mice, Digital Converter Boxes, Cable Receivers, Satellite Receivers and Digital Video Disc Recorders must be taken to a registered Illinois EPA collector such as SWALCO. Residents should direct these items and other unwanted and broken electronics to one of the many collection locations coordinated by SWALCO.

Don't know what to do with household batteries or last year's broken holiday lights? SWALCO is now accepting alkaline batteries, rechargeable batteries and holiday lights at its electronic collections on a year-round basis. In addition, several Lake County municipalities have collection sites for holiday lights available through January 31, 2012, as listed on the agency's website.

Green Tip: If you're purchasing new lights this year, consider investing in energy-efficient LED lights, which can last up to ten times longer than incandescent bulbs and are 80-90 percent more efficient than traditional, using only one-tenth the amount of electricity. They also produce less heat and will continue to glow after one burns out.

For more information about recycling or greening your holidays, visit the agency online at www.swalco.org or call 847-336-9340.