The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) Bans Most Electronic Equipment from the Regular Trash

The Covered Device Recycling (Act 108) of 2010 (CDRA) 
A General Overview

Electronic products constitute one of the fastest growing streams of today’s consumer and commercial waste. In November 2010, the Pennsylvania General Assembly passed the CDRA, which establishes a number of requirements for individuals and entities involved throughout the life cycle of certain “covered” electronic devices. Covered devices include: desktop computers, laptop computers, computer monitors, computer peripherals and televisions.

Beginning Jan. 24, 2013, a disposal ban on covered devices goes into effect in Pennsylvania. From this point forward, no person may dispose of a covered device, or any of its components, with their municipal solid waste. These devices and their components must be properly recycled and may not be taken to, nor accepted by, landfills or other solid waste disposal facilities for disposal. The effects of the disposal ban are outlined below.

肚Consumers: The CDRA defines a consumer as “An occupant of a single detached dwelling unit or a single unit of a multiple dwelling unit who has used a covered device primarily for personal or small business use. For purposes of this definition, a small business is an entity that is independently owned or operated, employs 50 or fewer people, has purchased or leased a covered computer device from a computer manufacturer or retailer and, but for the program established under this act, would not otherwise have access to electronic recycling programs.”

- May not dispose of their covered devices with municipal waste.
- Must take their covered devices to an electronics collection location for proper recycling, place their covered devices for curbside collection if a specific electronics collection program is offered or utilize an approved mail-back program to recycle their covered devices.

肚Businesses:

- May not dispose of their covered devices with municipal waste.
- Will need to recycle their covered devices. For businesses, the recycling facility that covered devices are transferred to does not need to be certified. If the facility is located in Pennsylvania, it must have a general permit #WMGR081 from DEP.

肚Landfills and Resource Recovery Facilities:

- May not accept covered devices or their components for disposal. However, they may accept non-hazardous residuals produced during the recycling of covered devices.
- Owners and operators of landfills will not be found in violation of the CDRA provided they make a good faith effort to comply with the Act; post, in a conspicuous location at the facility, a sign stating that covered devices and their components will not be accepted; and notify, in writing, all collectors registered to deposit solid waste to the facility that covered devices and their components will not be accepted at the facility.

肚Haulers:

- May not intentionally accept covered devices for disposal from any source of waste, and may not knowingly commingle covered devices with waste destined for disposal.
- Covered devices that are collected from consumers through electronics collection programs in Pennsylvania must continue to be transferred to certified electronics recycling facilities.

For more information on the CDRA, visit www.depweb.state.pa.us (select ‘Electronics Recycling’ from the ‘DEP Programs A - Z’ menu), or contact the Recycling Hotline at 1-800-346-4242, or contact:

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection 
Bureau of Waste Management 
Division of Waste Minimization and Planning
Rachel Carson State Office Building
P.O. Box 8472
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8472
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For more information, visit www.depweb.state.pa.us, keyword: Electronics Recycling