

LAWRENCE-MERCER RECYCLING / SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT

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Memorandum

To: All Lawrence and Mercer County Municipalities

From: Jerry P. Zona Director

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Re: Electronics Disposal Ban

Date: November 20, 2012

Pennsylvania passed the Covered Device Recycling Act in late 2010 (Act 108). Act 108 has been implemented in phases, and the next phase, which becomes effective January 1, 2013, will directly impact residents, municipalities, and waste haulers.

As stated in the Act, effective January 1, 2013, "no person may place in municipal solid waste a covered device or any of its components." This is a disposal ban that means that residents cannot put out covered devices with their trash and haulers cannot accept these same items for any type of disposal. These items must be recycled.

There are NO exceptions to this rule.

Covered devices, as defined, include:

- Televisions,
- Computers and their peripherals (Monitors, keyboards, mice, printers), and
- Cell phones.

In anticipation of the disposal ban, many hauling companies have already ceased collecting these materials.

There are a number of options that exist to recycle electronics in our counties. We will be working to put together a list of these options sometime during the first quarter of 2013. In the meantime, we are here to answer questions you and your residents may have about the disposal ban and potential options for their proper recycling.

Please note that all electronic item collection programs coordinated by municipalities and organizations must be registered with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. We have that paperwork and are available to assist anyone that wants to organize a collection event for electronics.

If you have any questions, contact me at 724-658-6925.



