

Don't trash your old electronics--find recycling options at GreenGuardian.com

Effective July 1, electronic products containing a cathode ray tube (CRT), such as TVs and computer monitors, may not be placed in the garbage

Twin Cities, June 20, 2006 – A new law takes effect on July 1 making it illegal to place electronics with a CRT in the garbage. Metro-area residents can turn to www.GreenGuardian.com to learn how to properly recycle their electronics.

The Green Guardian Web-site is a one-stop resource to help residents determine the most convenient electronics recycling options for them, including:

- **Government Recycling Programs:** Cities, counties or neighborhoods may pick-up electronics or offer drop-off sites.
- **Recycling Companies:** A listing of companies that take electronics for recycling.
- **Garbage Haulers:** Some haulers pick up electronics for recycling.
- **Manufacturer Take-Back Programs:** Some manufacturers take electronics for recycling.
- **Retailer Take-Back Programs:** Some retailers take electronics for recycling.

CRTs are considered the largest single source of lead in Minnesota's municipal waste, containing 2-8 pounds of lead per unit. The ban will keep toxic lead out of the garbage and will increase the amount of materials being recycled.

“Counties are eager to provide residents with the information needed to properly dispose of their old electronics,” said Jim Kordiak, Anoka County Commissioner and Chair of the Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board (SWMCB). “We want residents to know that visiting the GreenGuardian.com is an easy way to learn more about the importance of recycling and discover convenient ways to do so.”

Residents and businesses can check with GreenGuardian.com to find out ways to create less trash, recycle more and dispose of hazardous items safely.

GreenGuardian.com, launched in 2003, is sponsored by the metro region's Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board (SWMCB), comprised of the six member counties (Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey and Washington) and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. The SWMCB was formed in 1990 to increase the efficiency and environmental effectiveness of the region's solid waste management system.