



Department of Public Works

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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### **EPA Funds Electronic Scrap Event *City Residents get Opportunity to Recycle Televisions and Electronics***

Milwaukee's Great Lakes 2008 Earth Day Challenge, sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, will offer City of Milwaukee residents an opportunity to recycle their old television sets. **The one-day electronic scrap collection event will be held on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Italian Community Center South parking lot, located at 631 East Chicago.** Scrap electronics constitute the fastest growing segment of municipal solid waste stream. Consumers typically dispose of unwanted electronics in the trash.

Electronic waste or e-scrap may contain hazardous materials including lead, mercury and heavy metals that can pose a risk to human and environmental health through the release of toxics into the air and water. Proper disposal and recycling are needed to avoid unwanted pollution and divert waste from the landfills.

Televisions, computers and all computer accessories (monitors, printers, laptops, desktop PCs, keyboards, mice, and related cables) will be accepted. Items will be processed for reuse or recycling in an environmentally responsible manner. Any personal information left on the hard drives will be destroyed.

This event is free and open to City of Milwaukee residents, who must present an ID or copy of a bill with a Milwaukee address. The event is for residents only.

Mary A. Gade, EPA Great Lakes National Program Manager and Region 5 Administrator, stated, "EPA is counting on thousands of people in the Great Lakes basin to do their part and find a nearby collection event where they can safely get rid of their old electronics. It's a win-win situation for the public and for the Great Lakes ecosystem. This is an easy way for everyone to take part in protecting the Great Lakes."

Event partners include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful, the Italian Community Center, and Midwest Computer Recyclers.