

**CATAWBA COUNTY PLANNING NEW ELECTRONIC RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES
AS STATEWIDE LANDFILL BANS BEGINS**

Beginning July 1, 2011, computer equipment and televisions will be banned from disposal in North Carolina landfills, under a law passed last year by the General Assembly. Catawba County will provide four one-day electronics recycling collection events in fiscal year 2011-2012, free of charge.

All residents of Catawba County will have access to these electronics recycling events, including those who live in the cities and towns in the county. These events are for Catawba County residents and only residential electronic waste will be accepted.

“North Carolina Session Law 2010-67 will ban from landfills computer equipment, including laptops, desktops, monitors, printers, scanners and peripherals such as mice and keyboards, as of July 1st” said Amanda Kain, Catawba County’s Waste Reduction Coordinator. “The law requires that recycling opportunities for discarded electronics be created across the state and states that electronics manufacturers will help fund and create these opportunities.”

The four electronic waste collections will be held at the following locations, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

August 6th, 2011	Blackburn Landfill, 4017 Rocky Ford Road, Newton
November 5th, 2011	LP Frans Stadium, 2500 Clement Blvd NW, Hickory
February 4th, 2012	Blackburn Landfill, 4017 Rocky Ford Road, Newton
May 5th, 2012	Government Center, 100-A SW Blvd, Newton

Materials that will be accepted will include, but are not limited to computers, TVs, hard drives, scanners, fax machines, copiers, and other miscellaneous electronic equipment. Catawba County will contract with an electronics recycling company that has received all certifications needed to comply with the requirements of the State of North Carolina.

The November 5, 2011 and May 5, 2012 events will be held in conjunction with the County’s twice-a-year Household Hazardous Waste Collection days, during which all types of household hazardous waste will be accepted. Only paint and electronic wastes will be accepted on August 6, 2011 and February 4, 2012.

According to a release from the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the new landfill ban will help divert usable materials to a growing electronics recycling industry, which exceeds \$50 million and employs more than 300 North Carolinians.

“By capturing valuable materials for reuse and reducing our dependence on landfills, electronics recycling can help us achieve both our environmental and economic development goals,” said Secretary Dee Freeman of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. “I encourage all North Carolinians to join in this effort to make the electronics disposal ban a success.”

Computer equipment and televisions join a list of other materials banned from disposal in North Carolina, including plastic bottles, wooden pallets and oil filters. These bans have resulted in increased recycling of the materials and created growth in the state’s recycling economy.

For more information, call the Blackburn Landfill at 704-462-1348 or the County Recycling and Waste Reduction office at 828-465-8217.

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