The key to a greener Colorado
Implementing the Electronic Recycling Jobs Act

Marjorie Griek, Colorado Association for Recycling
Warren Smith, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

The Electronic Recycling Jobs Act

- Starting July 1, 2013 landfills may no longer accept residentially generated electronic waste.
- Why? E-waste includes hazardous materials that can contaminate soil and groundwater: Lead, mercury, arsenic, cadmium, chromium, silver, lithium, lead acid.
- Ban includes:
  - TV sets
  - Central processing units (CPUs)
  - Computer monitors & peripherals
  - Printers & fax machines
  - Laptops, electronic tablets & etc.
  - DVDs, VCRs & etc.
  - Video display devices with screens greater than 4 inches

- Exceptions include:
  - Non-hazardous industrial or commercial devices
  - Motor vehicle components
  - Telephones, including cell phones

- AND, counties may opt out if:
  - No infrastructure is available
  - They can’t hold two annual collection events
  - They can’t provide a collection facility
The Electronic Recycling Jobs Act

- Disposal facilities, transfer stations & waste haulers MUST:
  - Post signage stating that e-waste is not accepted. Facilities with signs will not be in violation if banned material slips through.
- Solid waste disposal facilities MUST:
  - Establish waste acceptance procedures, including waste-screen procedures
  - Incorporate info about the ban in employee training

Getting the word out

- CDPHE has established a website at www.colorado.gov/cdphe/ewaste with information for consumers and the regulated community
- The site will include customizable templates for communication tools that can be adapted for local use
- The state will issue a news release announcing the coming ban

Getting the word out

- The Act requires the state to work with the public and private sector to communicate the ban to the public, within existing resources.
BEGINNING JULY FIRST, 2013, COLORADO RESIDENTS MAY NO LONGER DISCARD ELECTRONIC WASTE IN THEIR HOUSEHOLD TRASH. TO FIND OUT HOW THIS CHANGE AFFECTS YOU, HOW TO RECYCLE YOUR ELECTRONIC DEVICES PROPERLY, AND HOW TO PROTECT YOUR DATA, SEE WWW.COLORADO.GOV/CDPHE/EWASTE. YOU ARE THE KEY TO A GREENER COLORADO, SO PLEASE – RECYCLE YOUR OBSOLETE ELECTRONICS. TO LEARN MORE, SEE WWW.COLORADO.GOV/CDPHE/EWASTE.

Getting the word out

- Radio PSAs/Telephone hold messages
- Media kit labels
- News release
- Consumer fact sheet
- Operator fact sheet
- CAFR website:
  - Describe certifications
    - R2 and E-Stewards
  - List of questions to ask e-waste recyclers
  - Data security issues
  - Contracting
  - ‘How-to’ hold collection events
  - Help find local recyclers
The Electronic Recycling Jobs Act

- To learn more:
  - See Section 16 of the state regulations
  - See www.colorado.gov/cdphe/ewaste for fact sheets and communication templates
  - Contact Wolfgang Kray at 303-692-3337 or wolfgang.kray@state.co.us

The Electronic Recycling Jobs Act

- For more information, contact the Colorado Association for Recycling Electronics Recycling and Reuse Council at http://cafr.org/members/errc.php
- Contact Marjorie Griek with CAFR at 303-975-6975 or email mgriek@cafr.org.