

Electronic waste and household hazardous waste collection in Manitoba

Since May, Manitobans eager to do the right thing for the environment have been choosing to take their residential e-waste to one of a growing number of collection locations around the province.

Residential e-waste is that broken down old television set or microwave oven you can't even give away, that outdated dinosaur of a computer nobody wants or one of dozens of other pieces of tired and retired household electronic equipment that have outlived usefulness.

Then there's household hazardous waste (HHW). This list consists of stuff like old paint, left over cleaning materials, dirty solvents, garden chemicals, insecticides and a wide variety of other products we use in and around our homes that, once they outlive their usefulness, need a safe place to go.

Most e-waste contains considerable amounts of recyclable and reusable material that ranges from plastic and glass to aluminum and steel. In many cases there are also trace amounts of other materials that can be valuable, or for that matter, even toxic. The toxic elements found in e-waste include things like mercury, lead, and cadmium. The

valuable materials could be gold, silver or other precious or semi-precious metals used in electronics.

Many household products, like electronics and household cleaners, paints, solvents and pesticides make our lives easier until they outlive their usefulness and we have to find ways to dispose of them.

Green Manitoba is a provincial agency that manages programs to collect residential e-waste and HHW for recycling or disposal in a safe and controlled way. Collecting all the HHW and residential e-waste generated in a province like Manitoba each year is neither simple, nor cheap.

E-waste depot operators are required to supply staff to receive, handle and load e-waste for transport. Additionally, depots must be able to store large quantities of e-waste in a secure place that is out of the elements until the materials are ready for shipment. Despite these barriers, and thanks to the hard-work of depot staff over the last two years, the E-waste Roundup Program has collected over 1 million kgs of residential e-waste for environmentally-responsible recycling at Sims Recycling Solutions. Run-

ning a province-wide E-waste Roundup program for the previous two years alone has amounted to costs of over \$1.2 million.

A cost associated with the safe management of both e-waste and HHW is that of trained staff and suitable facilities where materials can be accumulated and stored. Once enough materials are collected, they are transported economically to a market or to where they can be disposed of safely.

These management costs are outweighed by the real benefit found in keeping these materials out of landfills, out of the environment and out of the food chain.

Revenue from a new landfill levy on waste disposed at Manitoba landfills introduced on July 1, 2009 will help support the cost of rounding up HHW and residential e-waste.

While 80% of the revenue will find its way back to communities as grants based on the tonnage of household materials recycled, the other 20% will go toward enhancing e-waste and HHW collection programs in Manitoba.

Because the demand for HHW collection service continues to grow, Green Manitoba has stepped up the program by inviting more communities to participate and working with established participants to enhance collection and management capabilities. Currently, Green Manitoba contracts HHW collection to Miller Environmental Corporation, who collects HHW at community events located throughout the province. Miller Environmental manages household hazardous waste in an environmentally appropriate manner and processes some materials at their plant located in Letellier. Last year, the HHW program in Manitoba managed more than 650 tonnes of HHW at 30 events throughout the province.

Green Manitoba's website houses an on-line HHW appointment system where residents can book an appointment to drop-off household hazardous waste at Miller's Winnipeg location (1803 Hekla Ave). The Green Manitoba website also identifies the 30 e-waste collection depots throughout the province, and which ten depots will be open to the public year-round. To locate an e-waste depot or HHW collection event near you, its hours of operation, and a list of acceptable materials, please visit www.greenmanitoba.ca or call toll free 1-866-460-3118. 🌱



E-waste depots in Manitoba

Specific times and dates and all the latest information is available at www.greenmanitoba.ca or by calling 1-866-460-3118.

Winnipeg	Computers for Schools,* 170 Wyatt Rd. (until July 31); 75 Terracon Pl. (after Aug. 1)
	Miller Environmental,* 1803 Hekla Ave.
	Syrotech Industries,* 93 Gomez St.
	Powerland Computers,* 170 Marion St.
	Powerland Computers,* 40 Durand St.
	Urbanmine, 72 Rothwell Rd.
	CR Computers, 24 - 2077 Pembina Hwy. (south of Bishop Grandin Boulevard)
Eastman	Pinawa – Pinawa Recycling, north on PR 211 at Lagoon Road
	Steinbach* – Eastman Recycling, 60 Industrial Rd.
Westman	Virde – Salvage Kraft, 411 King St.
	Wawanesa – Village of Wawanesa Waste Transfer Station
	Baldur – Southwest Community Options, 225 Second St.
	Killarney – Killarney Recycling Depot, 610 Williams Ave.
	Dunrea – RM of Riverside Nuisance Grounds
	Ninette* – Southwest Community Options, 210 Queen St.
	Carberry - Carberry Waste Transfer Station, one mile west on PR 351
	Minnedosa, Neepawa* – Evergreen Environmental Technologies, PR 466
	Brandon* – City of Brandon MRF, 3000 Victoria Ave. E
	Shoal Lake – Shoal Lake and District Recycling and Landfill
Parkland	Dauphin – Kinsmen Recycling Site (location to be announced)
	Swan River – Valley Lions Recycling and Landfill Site, one mile south
Interlake	St. Francois Xavier – Transfer Station, corner of Rosser Road and Two Mile Road
	Selkirk* – Responsible Electronic Recycling , 511 Robinson Ave.
North	Flin Flon – Flin Flon Recycling Centre, 9 Timber Lane
	Thompson – Thompson Recycling Centre, 16 Severn Cres.
Central	Pilot Mound/Crystal City – Louise Waste, north of junction of PTH 3 and PTH 34
	Manitou – Pembina/Manitou Recycling Centre, 261 Main St.
	Carman – Carman Waste Transfer Station, one mile south and one mile west
	Morden – Pembina Valley Containers, 160 Grant St.
	Portage la Prairie – Public Works Yard, 495 - 11 St. N. W.

* Year-round depots

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