

COMPUTER AND TELEVISION RECYCLING IN CAMBRIDGE

WHEN?

On Monday, April 24, 2000, the City of Cambridge will begin weekly pick up of computers and televisions at the curb for reuse and recycling!

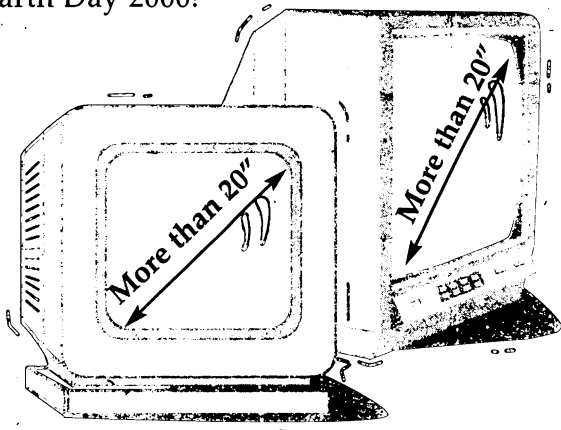
WHAT?

Televisions, computer monitors, hard drives, keyboards and mice.

WHY?

▲ Because computer and television screens contain an average of 5 lbs of lead. Harmless while intact, the lead in the screens can become a health hazard if the screens are incinerated or crushed up in a landfill. For this reason, computers and televisions can no longer be disposed of as trash in Massachusetts.

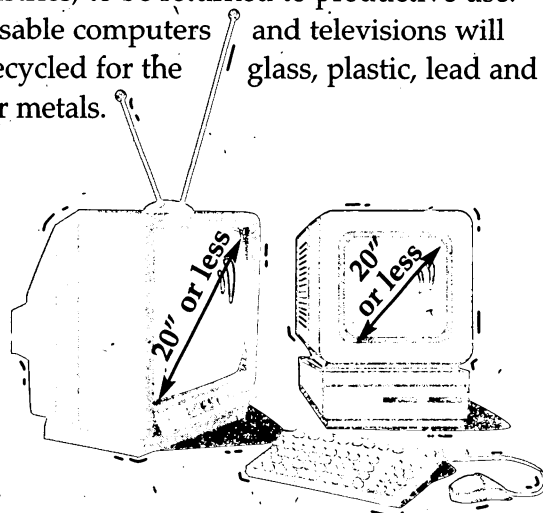
▲ Because starting a new city-wide recycling program is a great way to celebrate Earth Day 2000!



For televisions and computer monitors with a diagonal screen length of more than 20", call 349-4800 or visit the DPW at 147 Hampshire St. to purchase a sticker (\$15, \$10 for seniors) and schedule a pick up before putting your television or computer at the curb.

▲ Because computers and televisions account for a rapidly increasing share of the trash we generate, especially as new technologies such as flat panel screens and high definition television take over.

▲ Because the City will deliver salvageable computers and televisions to Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries, to be returned to productive use. Unusable computers and televisions will be recycled for the glass, plastic, lead and other metals.



For televisions and computer monitors with a diagonal screen length of 20" or less, simply set at the curb with your trash. The City's trash crews will notify a special DPW truck, which will come by later for your computer or television.

HOW MANY?

The City will collect up to one computer or television per household or business customer per week.

WHAT IF I PUT MY TRASH IN A DUMPSTER INSTEAD OF AT THE CURB?

If your residential building has a dumpster, the City does not collect trash there, and therefore may not notice that a computer or television has been set out at the curb for collection. Please call the Department of Public Works at 349-4800 to schedule a pick up for your computer or television.

WHO TO CALL?

Questions about this new program? Call the DPW at 349-4815 or 349-4805 (TTY/TDD).

THE WORKS
CAMBRIDGE
DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC
147 Hampshire Street
Cambridge, MA 02139



CAMBRIDGE

Dear Cambridge residents and businesses:

Thanks to the effort of many residents and businesses, Cambridge's recycling programs continue to be a big success, recovering over a third of what we used to throw away and serving as a model for other Boston area communities.

On the reverse side, you will find information about how to participate in the City's latest initiative to protect public health and the environment: curbside computer and television recycling.

If you have questions about this or other Cambridge recycling programs, please call **349-4815** or **349-4805** (TTY/TDD) or visit the City's recycling web site at www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/~TheWorks/recycle.html

ECRWSS

RESIDENT CUSTOMER
CAMBRIDGE, MA

BULK RATE
US POSTAGE PAID
Mass. Department of
Environmental Protection

NEW!
CURBSIDE TV AND
COMPUTER RECYCLING



This material was designed, printed and mailed by the Massachusetts Dept. of Environmental Protection, Executive Office of Environmental Affairs through a grant awarded to your municipality.
Printed with soybean ink on recycled paper made from 100% post consumer waste.



trash from residential buildings with dumpsters, and therefore trash crews may not notice that a computer or television has been set out at the curb for collection.

WHEN WILL THE CITY'S PROGRAM START?

The City will start collecting computers and televisions at the curb on April 3 in order to comply with state regulations. However, the City is celebrating Earth Day 2000 by "officially" launching this new city-wide recycling program on Monday, April 24, 2000!

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE COMPUTERS AND TELEVISIONS AFTER THEY ARE PICKED UP AT THE CURB?

The City will deliver all of the computers and televisions to Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries in Roxbury. Goodwill will salvage working computers and televisions for resale. Unusable computers and televisions will be sent to Global Recycling Technologies (GRT) in Stoughton, MA, where virtually every part of these electronic devices is recycled. GRT will recover the leaded and non-leaded glass to be reused in glass manufacturing. Plastics are sent to Conigliaro Industries in Framingham, where they are ground up and mixed with asphalt to make a lightweight material for filling potholes. Electronic circuit boards are sold to a precious metal smelter.

WILL CITY GOVERNMENT RECYCLE ITS OLD COMPUTERS?

The City has routinely sold functioning but obsolete computer equipment to the highest bidder. Now, non-functioning computers from city government offices will be recycled through the City's new computer and television recycling program.

HOW MUCH WILL THIS NEW PROGRAM COST?

This new program will be provided at no cost to the taxpayer for the foreseeable future. The collection of televisions and computers is being accomplished with existing union personnel, so no new labor costs will be incurred. Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries will sort the items into reusable and unusable fractions at no cost to the City. Goodwill has been able to resell over 70% of the televisions and computers delivered to them through other municipal programs. Assuming the same holds true for the computers and televisions collected in Cambridge, the cost of paying Global Recycling Technologies to recycle the unusable fraction is expected to be only about \$3,000 per year. Furthermore, it is estimated that the City will save about \$2,000 per year in trash disposal costs by keeping computers and televisions from being thrown away in Cambridge. So, the net recycling cost will be about \$1,000 per year. For the first two months of the City's program, the state will cover the recycling costs through a "Market Services" Grant. Starting in July, 2000, the recycling costs will be paid with grant money received through the Municipal Recycling Incentive Program (MRIP), which provides the City with \$8 to \$20 for every ton of paper items and bottles and cans recycled in Cambridge. The City has received sufficient grant monies under this program to cover the recycling cost for unusable computers and televisions for the foreseeable future.

WILL BUSINESSES BE ABLE TO BE PART OF THIS PROGRAM?

The DPW has traditionally picked up trash from several hundred business customers in Cambridge. Starting on April 24, the DPW will collect up to one computer or television per current business customer per week for recycling.

Businesses that have their trash picked up by a private hauler are encouraged to ask their hauler about computer and television recycling options. Additional information on computer recycling options for businesses can be found under *Recycling and Reuse Outlets for Miscellaneous Items* at the City's recycling web site at www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/~TheWorks/recycle.html or the *Recycling Services Directory* at the Department of Environmental Protection's web site at www.state.dep.ma.us/dep/recycle.

WHO CAN RESIDENTS AND CURRENT BUSINESS CUSTOMERS CALL WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS NEW PROGRAM?

Residents and current business customers can call Jessica Nolan of the DPW at 349-4815 or 349-4805 (TTY/TDD).

March 29, 2000



Rolph E. Dunphy
Commissioner

147 Hampshire Street
Cambridge, MA 02139
617-349-4800
TDD 617-349-4805

March 29, 2000

Dear Councilor:

I am pleased to inform you of the Public Works Department's newest initiative to protect public health and the environment: curbside computer and television recycling. Enclosed you will find a copy of a brochure on this topic that will be delivered in the next few weeks to all Cambridge households and current commercial trash customers. Please note that 349-4800, the main Public Works phone number, is mistyped as "349-3800" in one spot in the brochure. We are in the process of determining whether 349-3800 can be forwarded to 349-4800 in order to eliminate any inconvenience to residents.

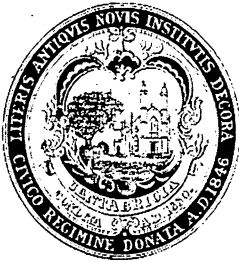
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Sincerely,

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Ralph E. Dunphy
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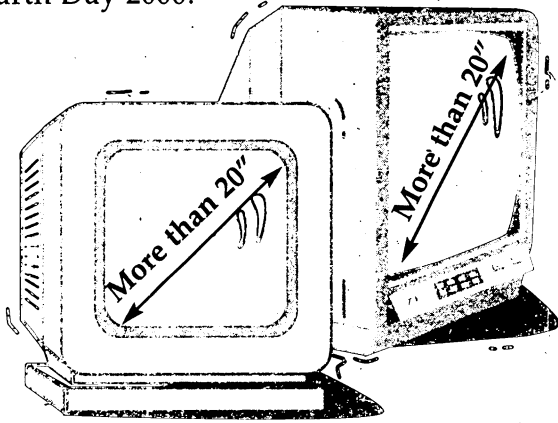
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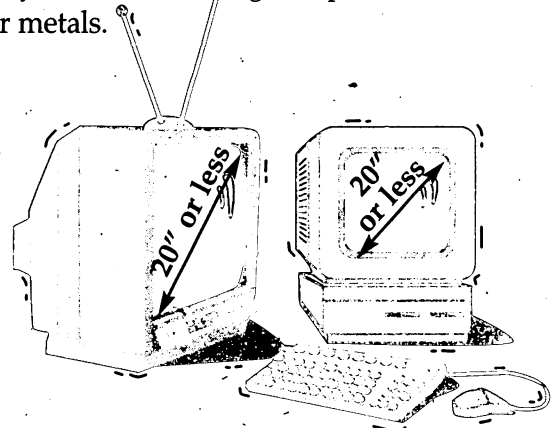
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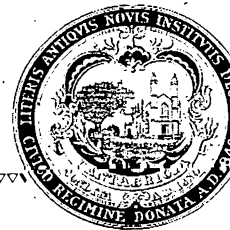
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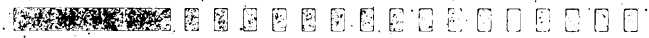


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FACT SHEET CURBSIDE COMPUTER AND TELEVISION RECYCLING IN CAMBRIDGE

WHY IS THE CITY LAUNCHING A COMPUTER AND TELEVISION RECYCLING PROGRAM?

Beginning April 1, 2000, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will prohibit the disposal, or transfer for disposal of computers and televisions at all Massachusetts solid waste facilities. DEP is taking this regulatory action for several reasons:

- Computer and television screens contain an average of 5 lbs of lead. Harmless while intact, the lead in the screens can become a health hazard if the screens are incinerated or crushed up in a landfill.
- Computers and televisions account for a rapidly increasing share of the trash we generate, especially as new technologies such as flat panel screens and high definition television take over.
- The waste ban will promote the reuse of unwanted computers and televisions through charitable organizations, as well as the recycling of glass, plastic, lead and other metals.
- Currently, the state throws out about 25,000 tons of computers and televisions per year. Recycling and repairing those items could create up to 1,100 new jobs.
- Electronics recycling reduces the need for mining of copper, gold, silver and lead.

WHAT ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED IN THE NEW RECYCLING PROGRAM?

Televisions, computer monitors, hard drives, keyboards and mice. The City will collect up to one computer or television per household or current commercial trash customer per week.

HOW WILL THE PROGRAM WORK?

For televisions and computer monitors with a diagonal screen length of more than 20", residents are asked to call 349-4800 or visit the Department of Public Works (DPW) at 147 Hampshire St. to purchase a sticker (\$15, \$10 for seniors) and schedule a pick up before putting their television or computer at the curb. The DPW will pick up these large items along with appliances such as old refrigerators and stoves.

For televisions and computer monitors with a diagonal screen length of 20" or less, residents may simply set at the curb with their trash. The City's trash crews will notify a special DPW truck, which will come by later in the day for the computer or television.

Residents who live in buildings with trash dumpsters are asked to call the DPW at 349-4800 to schedule a pick up for their computer or television. The City does not collect

trash from residential buildings with dumpsters, and therefore trash crews may not notice that a computer or television has been set out at the curb for collection.

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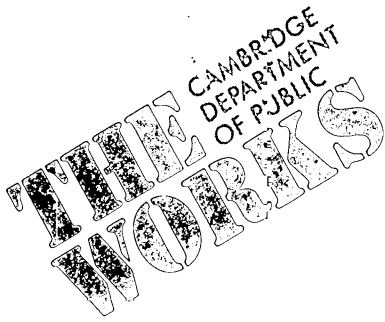
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Brochure on curbside computer and
television recycling.

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