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ADEQ Announces Free Electronics Waste Recycling Event will be held Jan. 16 in Sun City West for northwest Valley region

PHOENIX – (Jan. 5, 2010) – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality officials announced today that the first major free electronics waste recycling event for Sun City West, Sun City and surrounding communities in the northwest Valley will be held Saturday, Jan. 16 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the parking lot of the Sun City West Sundome, 19403 R.H. Johnson Blvd.

ADEQ and its partners – PORA, Recreation Centers of Sun City West and the recycling company E-Waste Harvesters of Phoenix -- anticipate collecting tons of unwanted televisions, computers, monitors, batteries, chargers, cell phones, VCRs, CD and DVD players, printers, small appliances, fax machines, cables and cords during the event.

“Electronics waste is a pressing problem in Arizona and throughout the country and the proper handling and disposal of it can become a great opportunity as well,” said ADEQ Director Benjamin H. Grumbles. “This is our seventh big e-waste recycling event in Arizona and we’ll be sponsoring similar recycling roundups throughout the state in the coming year. We should always remember in our daily lives the three Rs – reduce, reuse and recycle.”

Larry Woods, president of the PORA board of directors in Sun City West, said that the free e-recycling event will serve a big need in Sun City West, Sun City and other parts of the northwest Valley.

“People hang on to their old electronics for years, and sometimes decades, and here is a wonderful opportunity to dispose of them free of charge in an environmentally responsible manner,” Woods said.

Companies and individuals donating e-waste will receive a certificate of disposal for their records from E-Waste Harvesters if they want the document. The company uses state of the art software to erase all hard drives and a hard drive crusher will be available for use on site if requested.

ADEQ sponsored the largest electronics recycling event ever in rural Arizona in late August when nearly 30 tons of recyclables were collected in Show Low and disposed of responsibly, rather than having the electronic devices take up valuable landfill space. Another about 25 tons of recyclables have been collected in events in Williams, Payson, Globe, Superior and Nogales.

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