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ADEQ Announces Free Electronics Waste Recycling Event on Aug. 27 at Wal-Mart Shopping Lot in Show Low

PHOENIX – (July 28, 2011) – The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality begins the third year of its Free Electronics Waste Recycling Program on Saturday, Aug. 27 with a collection event in the parking lot of the Wal-Mart in Show Low, 5401 S. White Mountain Rd., from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.

ADEQ and its partners – City of Show Low, Town of Pinetop-Lakeside, White Mountain Apache Tribe Environmental Protection Office, Northland Pioneer College, Wal-Mart, Waste Management, Larson Waste, Little Colorado River Plateau Resource Conservation & Development Area, Inc. and E-Waste Harvesters -- anticipate collecting tons of unwanted televisions, computer equipment, monitors, batteries, chargers, cell phones, VCRs, CD and DVD players, printers, small appliances, fax machines, stereos, cables and cords.

In addition, Show Low's third annual event e-waste collection event will offer the opportunity for residents to recycle paper, cardboard, aluminum and tin cans and plastic numbers 1, 2 and 3, which are plastic drink bottles, fabric conditioner, bleach, shampoo and toiletries bottles. For more information, call (928) 532-4124 or (928) 337-3565.

In addition to residents of Show Low and Pinetop-Lakeside, ADEQ officials are encouraging all White Mountains area residents and businesses to bring their electronic recyclables to the event, including residents of the nearby White Mountain Apache Tribe, Snowflake, Taylor, St. Johns, Springerville, Eagar, Concho, Vernon, Alpine, Nutrioso, Greer, Shumway, Heber-Overgaard, Pinedale, Clay Springs and Linden.

Last August, the Show Low Wal-Mart played host to the largest e-waste collection event in state history with more than 80 tons – 163,936 pounds – collected from 341 vehicles and the first event in August 2009 collected nearly 30 tons – 57,433 pounds – from 300 vehicles.

“The turnout and support for these events in southern Navajo and Apache counties has been nothing short of outstanding,” ADEQ Director Henry Darwin said. “We’re honored to have the opportunity to return for this third annual event and work with our many public and private partners in the region.”

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Darwin added, “This is a great opportunity for people to dispose of all the unwanted electronics they have collected over the years while at the same time ensuring that this potentially toxic stream of waste is disposed of responsibly and does not take up valuable landfill space.”

Steve North, business development coordinator for the City of Show Low, said, “We're pleased to collaborate with ADEQ and our other partners to bring this Third Annual E-Waste Collection Event to the White Mountains. We think this will be another record-breaking event and look to set a new standard for the rest of the state to meet.”

Companies and individuals donating e-waste will receive a certificate of disposal for their records from E-Waste Harvesters if they want the document. E-Waste Harvesters will erase all hard drives with state of the art software and recycles all materials in accordance with state and federal regulations.

ADEQ has sponsored 41 e-recycling events around the state during the past two years and collected more than 475 tons of e-waste – 950,880 pounds -- from more than 7,000 motorists.

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