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ADEQ Announces Free Electronics Waste Recycling Event will be held June 18 Across from Safeway Plaza in Benson

PHOENIX (June 6, 2011) – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality officials announced today that a free electronics waste recycling event for residents of Benson and the surrounding area will be held on Saturday, June 18 from 8 a.m. until noon in the 500 block of West Fourth Street in downtown Benson, across the street from Safeway.

ADEQ and its partners -- the City of Benson, Benson Schools, Benson Lumber, Goodwill of Southern Arizona, Society of St. Vincent de Paul and Global Electronic Recycling of Phoenix -- 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 at the event.

“We are excited about having our first free electronics waste collection event in the Benson area and welcome everyone living in the area to attend,” said ADEQ Director Henry Darwin. “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.”

Benson City Manager Glenn Nichols also said he is eagerly anticipating the event.

“We’re happy to host this ‘green’ event in conjunction with ADEQ,” Nichols said. “We have needed an electronic waste recycling event of this large-scale scope for quite some time. It will allow residents of our area to help protect the environment by recycling their old or unwanted electronic items.”

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

ADEQ has sponsored 40 events since August 2009 throughout the state and collected more than 936,280 pounds from more than 7,000 vehicles attending the events.