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## **ADEQ Announces Free Electronics Waste Recycling Event Saturday, Jan. 28 at Bashas' Parking Lot in Thatcher**

PHOENIX (Jan. 17, 2012) – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality officials announced today that its third annual free electronics waste recycling event for Thatcher, Safford, Pima and the surrounding area will be held Saturday, Jan. 28 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parking lot of Bashas' supermarket in Thatcher, 2323 W. Highway 70.

ADEQ and its partners – Town of Thatcher, City of Safford, Town of Pima, Bashas' supermarket, Gila Watershed Partnership of Arizona, Volvo Rents Construction Equipment, Health Occupations Students of America and Westech Recyclers -- 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 during the event.

“In the past two years we have had excellent events in the Gila River Valley and collected a total of more than 25 tons of electronics waste,” said ADEQ Director Henry Darwin. “This is a great opportunity for people in the region 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.”

The event site also will serve as a loading area for three satellite electronics waste collection events held on Jan. 21 in Morenci, Duncan and Willcox.

Companies and individuals donating e-waste will receive a certificate of disposal for their records from Westech Recyclers if they want the document. Westech Recyclers 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 50 events since August 2009 and collected nearly 1.3 million pounds from about 9,000 vehicles attending the e-waste events.

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