



KENT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Free Recycling of Older-Style TVs Ends Soon

Grand Rapids – Kent County is partnering with a manufacturer-supported recycling program to accept cathode ray tube (CRT) electronic devices and other electronics at no charge. The fee-free program began on July 18 and, to date, has drawn nearly 300,000 pounds of CRT devices out of basements, garages and closets. This equals approximately 4,800 televisions. The County's goal is to collect 500,000 pounds by the end of September.

"We're thrilled that the community has responded so positively to this limited-time opportunity to recycle TVs and computer monitors but we know there are still some out there that are ready to be recycled," said Darwin Baas, Director of the Kent County Department of Public Works. "We're offering one last call for anyone who has CRTs to recycle to bring them to one of Kent County's three drop-off locations before September 30th."

To make the offer even sweeter, Kent County has collaborated with local electronics recycler Advanced Technology Recycling (ATR) and electronics retailer Decker & Sons to give away a brand new flat screen TV to one lucky recycler before September 30.

"The person to bring in the 6,000th CRT TV or monitor will be given a brand new TV to take home and enjoy, thanks to our community partnership," said Baas. The winner will be announced on Kent County's ImagineTrash Facebook page, @imaginetrash.

Though it seems most households have purchased flat-screen televisions, many may still have an older cathode ray tube (CRT) television in their home, either still in use or stashed away in the garage or basement.

CRT devices and other electronics are processed by ATR, a third-party recycler in Grand Rapids. CRT televisions contain approximately 5-10 pounds of lead, a toxic component for our environment that can cause a variety of health issues.

Kent County's facilities for electronics recycling are located at North Kent Recycling & Waste Center at 2908 Ten Mile Road in Rockford; Kent County Recycling and Education Center at 977 Wealthy SW in Grand Rapids; and South Kent Landfill at 10300 South Kent Drive in Byron Center. For facility hours and directions, visit www.recyclekent.org.

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