

INFORMATION



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**LIGHT CYCLE
PICK-UP DATES:**

JUNE

3RD & 4TH

10TH & 11TH

24TH & 25TH

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BEATRICE EVENT COLLECTS ELECTRONICS

(Article taken from the Lincoln Journal Star, May 19th, 2002)
Beatrice— Once they were shiny gadgets on store shelves, boasting their bells and whistles. Saturday they left town in dusty heaps, their owners relieved to get rid of them.

Almost 50 computer monitors, dozens of printers and other stuff—stereo turntables, eight track players, and typewriters, even a slide projector. “Old stuff, dusty stuff,” said Steve Andrews, a program specialist with the Nebraska State Recycling Association.

In all 66 vehicles stopped and 3,364 pounds of unwanted electronic equipment was collected. CP Recovery of Omaha collected information on each item, including its weight and contents, so that the stuff could be shipped to Omaha for disassembly and recycling.

The collection was one of several cooperative events sponsored by the Nebraska State Recycling Association, Keep Nebraska Beautiful and WasteCap of Lincoln. On Saturday many volunteers helped Keep Nebraska Beautiful host the collec-

tion.

CP Recovery accepted one monitor and up to 75 pounds of peripheral equipment for free, additional monitors cost \$5 and each additional pound cost 25 cents.

Dan Witulski, a home electronics handyman and amateur radio operator paid \$9.50 to dispose of his extra stuff. He figure it was well worth the cost. “I’d like to see it stay out the landfills,” Witulski said.

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WASTECAP MEMBERS RECEIVE AWARDS

On April 26th the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, the City of Lincoln, and the Public Works & Utilities Department hosted the 2002 Environmental Awards Presentation. WasteCap of Lincoln Member, Good-year Tire and Rubber, received a Waste Water Conservation Award. WasteCap of Lincoln Partner, Midland Recycling, received a Waste Reduc-

tion and Recycling Award for their efforts in our community.

On May 9th at the 2002 Nebraska Safety, Health & Environmental Awards Duncan Aviation received awards for Environmental Excellence and Safety Excellence. The University of Nebraska at Lincoln Environmental Health Services received an award for Environ-

mental Excellence. Novartis Consumer Health, Duncan Aviation, Molex, and Square D all received Certificates of Recognition for the Development of Individual Wastewater Treatment Certification.

Congratulations to all WasteCap of Lincoln Members and Partners for your awards and recognitions.

Report Cautions Against Hazards of Wireless Waste

(taken from RecyclingToday 5/9/02)

INFORM Inc., a national environmental research organization based in New York City, released *Waste in the Wireless World: The Challenge of Cell Phones* May 8, which includes design and disposal recommendations for minimizing the environmental and health impacts from wireless waste.

The report analyzes environmental problems created by the current disposal methods for cell phones and related technology, such as personal digital assistants, portable e-mail devices, pagers, pocket PCs and MP3 players. According to the report, wireless waste produces particularly acute problems when the devices are sent to landfills or incinerators, where release of the toxins within create threats to human health and the environment.

“Because these devices are so small, their environmental impact may appear to be minimal,” Bette Fishbein, INFORM senior fellow and author of the report, says. “But the growth in their use has been so enormous that the environmental and public health impacts of the waste they create are a significant concern. Now is the time to address them.”

The design-related recommendations

outlined in the report include:

- Reduction of toxic substances, particularly lead and brominated flame retardants,
- Implementation of a worldwide technical standard for all cell phone carriers and standardized cell phone design elements; and
- Designing with disassembly, reuse and recycling in mind.

The disposal-related recommendations outlined in the report include:

- Implementation of effective take-back programs by U.S. manufacturers;
- Development of financial incentives, such as deposit/refund systems, to encourage consumers to return wireless devices for collection and reuse or recycling;
- Targeting of rechargeable batteries for take-back; and
- Introduction of take-back programs at the outset for disposable cell phone, if and when the devices become available.

The study documents efforts in Europe, Japan and Australia to deal with wireless waste. For example,

Australia has implemented the world’s first and only nationwide take-back program dedicated to recovering and recycling cell phones. In the European Union (E.U.), pending directives will require electronics manufacturers to phase out toxic components and take responsibility for waste generated by products marketed in the EU. Forthcoming design guidelines in Japan will result in more longer-lasting and recyclable electronic products with fewer toxic components.

“Because these devices are so small, their environmental impact may appear to be minimal”

“Despite the lack of any current or pending federal legislation addressing the end-of-life management of electronics, U.S. government and industry are likely to be influenced by trends abroad,” Fishbein says. “For example, state-level legislation is being considered in California, Massachusetts and Minnesota that would make producers responsible for paying the costs of managing the waste generated by their electronic products.”

MARKETS CORNER



	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
OCC	35	45	55
CPO	40	40	40
MAG	0	0	0
NEWS	10	10	10
SOP	10	10	20

Clean Your Files Week a Great Success

Clean Your Files Week 2002 was held the week of April 22-26. Thirty-four (34) buildings, including businesses, public schools, UNL, City/County offices and State offices purged and recycled nearly 61,000 pounds of office paper and files. This volume topples the previous two-year combined total of 57,000 pounds. Participants collecting the largest volume per capita in the categories of business, schools and government offices will be awarded a plaque sponsored by Midland Recycling and presented by Mayor Don Wesely at the Mayor's

press conference tentatively scheduled for May 30th.

The winner in the business category was The Gallup Organization. In all, 320 Gallup employees recycled 19,500 pounds of files for a per capita average of 61 pounds per employee. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln won the government category collecting 11,170 pounds of paper from 103 employees in 23 different locations. Of the 24 public schools that participated in Clean Your Files Week, Park Middle School will be

awarded for collecting 960 pounds of paper.

Other businesses that participated include: Duncan Aviation (30 pounds per participant), Experian (33 pounds per participant), HWS Consulting (34 pounds per participant), Pfizer, Inc. (45 pounds per participant) and Senior Technologies (42 pounds per participant). Congratulations to all who participated and made this year's Clean Your Files Week the best yet. We look forward to your continued participation next year.

A Ringing Cell Phone Recommendation

(Taken From RecyclingToday, 5/9/02)

Recycling cell phones along with the rest of the mixed electronics stream may be the best way for manufacturers to meet looming European recycling mandates.

That was one possible conclusion reached by Roger Franz of Motorola's Personal Communications Sector, Libertyville, Ill. Franz looked at recycling techniques with an eye on targets established by the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) directive in Europe.

The European Commission, through its WEEE directive, has determined that cellular telephones must be recycled at a rate of 70 percent (by mass), and it is up to manufacturers to determine how to achieve the goal.

With cell phone recycling being a relatively new venture, Franz told attendees at the International Symposium on Electronics & the

Motorola conducted a test of its equipment with a U.S. electronics recycler who runs a shredder. Motorola sent a mixture of cell phones, chargers and cables, and the recycler ended up with a stream of 21 percent saleable metals and 79 percent "inert filler."

Environment in San Francisco on Wednesday that "the door was wide open to develop any kind of program that made sense." Franz looked at pilot studies and programs that had been conducted in several nations. Motorola also conducted a test of its equipment with a U.S. electronics recycler who runs a shredder. Motorola sent a mixture of cell phones, chargers and cables, and the recycler ended up

with a stream of 21 percent saleable metals and 79 percent "inert filler." The recycler found markets for the mixed plastic filler material created, but, "We cannot confirm that a high-volume market for this fraction would be sustainable in all regions for which recycling would be required," Franz concluded.

A general conclusion reached by Franz was that disassembly of cell phones was not cost-effective and did not necessarily increase the materials recycling rate. Likewise, design-for-recycling considerations do not seem appropriate if there will be no disassembly and plastics will be mechanically processed and separated.

Finding recyclers "with automation technologies" is the likeliest scenario for cell phone manufacturers, according to Franz. He compared the situation to that of European auto manufacturers, who are working with existing scrap recyclers to meet end-of-life vehicle recycling targets.

CALENDER

MAY

12th	Mother's Day
18th	Beatrice Computer Collection
18th	Armed Forces Day
20th & 21st	Light Cycle Pickup Dates
30th	Memorial Day (Observed May 27th)

JUNE

3rd & 4th	Light Cycle Pickup Dates
10th & 11th	Light Cycle Pickup Dates
14th	Flag Day
16th	Father's Day
21st	Summer Begins
24th & 25th	Light Cycle Pickup Dates

WASTECAP ANNOUNCES NEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

WasteCap of Lincoln would like to welcome two new members to the advisory committee.

Jim Fischer is originally from Humphrey, NE (20 miles north of Columbus) and moved to Lincoln in 1996. He started with LES in 1996 as the Safety & Health Program Specialist and was promoted to Assistant Manager of Operations in 2000. He is currently responsible

for construction and maintenance of power lines, outage restoration, spill cleanups, waste product management, safety and health, and is in charge of 201 employees.

Lorene Bartos is an Extension Educator for the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County. She has 29 years with the Cooperative Extension. Her program emphasis is Environment of

the Home Indoor Air Quality, Home Safety, Care. She has also worked with the Shop S.M.A.R.T. (Save Money and Reduce Trash) program, and the Earth Wellness Festival.

We look forward to working with Jim and Lorene on our upcoming projects.

BEATRICE EVENT COLLECTS ELECTRONICS

(Continued from page 1)

Saturday's collection was just a drop in the bucket compared to the tons of defunct equipment sitting in all kind of places, from corporate headquarters to consumers' closets. Perhaps more important than the collection was the education that occurred and the bag of information that went home with each person.

"I think it was pretty successful," said Linda Grell, director of Keep

Nebraska Beautiful. "Not just for people who came but for the people who were educated.

Another Beatrice volunteer was Dale Ekart, who works at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's recycling department. Consumers and the companies that produce electronics may someday have to change the way it handles materials, he said. Other countries already are enforcing stricter "product stewardship" which requires manufacturers

to recycle the products they sell. "It's not going to just go out the door," Ekart said. "It might just come back to haunt us someday."

Andrews said the information about Saturday's collection would be used to determine more information about defunct equipment in existence and how willing people are to participate in recycling. Funds for the recycling collection were provided by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality.