



NEWS RELEASE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 17, 2010

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**Mobile Collection Event – Saturday, April 17, 2010
Tarpon Springs High School
1411 Gulf Road**

Get Rid of Household Hazardous Waste!

Got unwanted electronics or chemical waste? Collect the hazardous waste items from your home, office, or garage, and properly dispose of them at the upcoming **mobile collection event:**

Tarpon Springs High School
1411 Gulf Road (east of S. Florida Ave.)
Saturday, April 17, 2010 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Drive up, and drop off your hazardous electronics and chemicals! Pinellas County Utilities offers this service **free** to county residents. Businesses should arrange for drop off and payment by calling EQ Florida at (813) 319-3400 (chemicals), or Creative Recycling at (813) 621-2319 (electronics).

Electronic equipment has become a mainstay of our American way of life: TVs, GPS's, cell phones, MP3 players, smartphones, video game players, computers, and printers, just to name a few. Americans own nearly 3 billion electronic products. For each new product that comes along, at least one becomes outdated, so we're discarding older electronics faster than ever. Improper disposal of e-waste creates a significant problem because toxic substances such as lead, mercury, cadmium, and brominated flame retardants can leach into the soil and groundwater.

As for chemicals, the average household can accumulate as much as 100 pounds of chemicals inside the home or garage. Many leftover household products contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable, or reactive chemical ingredients. Household chemical waste includes paints, paint thinners, cleaners, motor oil, rechargeable batteries, pesticides, fertilizers, fluorescent bulbs, smoke detectors, and more.

Unwanted household electronics and chemicals should never be dumped in the regular trash, or in drains, storm sewers, or on the ground. These items can pollute the environment and pose a threat to human health.

For disposal questions and more information on mobile collections or the permanent Household Electronics & Chemical Collection Center, please contact Pinellas County Solid Waste Operations at (727) 464-7500 or visit www.pinellascounty.org/utilities.

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