

Proposed Electronics Bill Fact Sheet

"Nothing in nature is exhausted in its first use" - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Recycling in Portage County

While this bill has not become law yet, Portage County has long offered the service of electronics recycling. Bring your e-waste in to the Transfer Facility in Plover to ensure proper recycling and disposal!

Televisions

Portable: \$10/ ea
Console or Big Screen: \$20/ ea

Computers

CPU or Monitor: \$10/ ea

DVD players, VCRs Free



Portage County Solid
Waste Department

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Background: Sen. Mark Miller (D-16th District) has proposed a bill that will place requirements upon manufacturers and retailers of "video display devices" like TVs and computer monitors to ensure these items are recycled. This is important because items like these contain hazardous substances that could be detrimental to the environment if placed in landfills. With the change to digital TV in 2009, a massive amount of TVs may be disposed of—this bill is one step in preventing an electronic waste crisis!

About the Bill: This bill will ban from landfills televisions, computer monitors and peripherals, computers, fax machines, digital video players, video recorders and telephones with video displays.

Provisions of the Bill:

Manufacturers: May not sell these devices to individuals or retailers unless they do the following:

- Register with the Department of Natural Resources.
- Collect and recycle certain devices (or make arrangements to have it done) without charge to the individuals relinquishing them.
- Report data regularly.
- Pay certain fees (the more devices that are collected for recycling, the less the fees will be).

Retailers: May not purchase these items for resale from manufacturers that do not meet the above requirements.

Both: Must inform an individual purchasing an item about recycling processes and opportunities.

Violations: Manufacturers will be fined no more than \$10,000 for each violation. A person will be fined no more than \$1,000.

Contact your legislator to tell them you support this bill!