



Butler County Department of Recycling & Waste Management

NEWS Spring 2017

Bill On Senate Calendar Would Prevent Funding Crisis In Recycling Program



How Do I Recycle...

TELEVISIONS

 Currently, there is only one location in Butler County that is DEP-permitted to accept televisions for recycling. Call **ECS&R** toll-free at **1-866-815-0016** for more information or to register to attend a collection event (*ECS&R collects TV's and electronics on the same dates as the county's collections.*)

Legislation now on the Senate Calendar for action when it returns May 8-- Senate Bill 646 (Killion-Delaware)-- would prevent a funding crisis in the state's Recycling Program by eliminating the expiration date for the Act 101 \$2 per ton recycling fee on waste disposed in Pennsylvania.

DEP has already stopped accepting new applications for local recycling implementation grants until the fee issue is resolved by the General Assembly. The fee was due to sunset on January 1, 2020.

The recycling grants are critical to supporting local and county curbside and drop-off

recycling programs that provide 94 percent of the state's population with access to recycling their household waste.

The \$2/ton fee is projected to bring in about \$38 million in FY 2016-17, however, the General Assembly used \$9 million of that revenue to balance the state's General Fund budget (page H69).

The Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania, PA Resources Council, PA Environmental Council and many other groups are supporting reauthorization of the fee.

For more information on Act 101 and recycling in Pennsyl-

vania, visit DEP's Recycling In PA webpage at:

www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Land/Waste/Recycling/Pages/default.aspx

Source: Pa. Environmental Daily



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Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful—Tools for Schools



The Tools for School toolkit provides everything educators or students will need to organize a cleanup through their school community.

Included in the tool kit are tips to conduct litter cleanups, illegal dump cleanups, beautification projects, special collec-

tions, and educational events and resources to help implement the event.

For more information, please visit:

www.gacofpa.org/



Upcoming Events in Butler County

Through May 31st—the Great American Cleanup of Pennsylvania—see www.gacofpa.org for a list of Butler County events.

May 6, 13 and 20-

June 3 and 24-

July 15—the next six Butler County household hazardous waste and electronics

collections. Contact our contractor, ECS&R at 1-866-815-0016 for more information or to register to attend. (Collections will be held on various Saturdays through the end of the year.)

August 19 and Sept. 9—Allegheny Aquatic Alliance’s 6th annual Connoqueness-

ing Creek cleanup
* For upcoming events at **Jennings Environmental Education Center**, call 724.794.6011 or visit events.dcnr.pa.gov/jennings_environmental_education_center#.WQszuWczXX4

Company Ordered to Remove Lead-Tainted Glass from Grove City Warehouse

A New York company has been given one year to remove millions of pounds of lead-tainted glass and other materials from five warehouses in Northwest Pennsylvania, including one in Grove City, Mercer County.

The Pennsylvania D.E.P. announced earlier this month that it has denied a request by Nulife Glass NY for a variance that would have allowed the company to classify as solid waste, millions of pounds of processed or used cathode ray tubes currently being stored in those warehouses.

Cathode ray tube materials include the vacuum tubes and associated materials found in older model televisions and computer monitors. These materials contain high lead content and exhibit toxic characteristics, according to the DEP.

According to the company website, Nulife Glass NY was building a furnace in Dunkirk, New York that would be used in part of a process to remove the lead from recycled cathode ray tube materials.

Since May 2014, Nulife transported approximately 17 million pounds of CRT materials to Pennsylvania warehouses while attempting to obtain a permit to construct and operate the furnace.

Since that time, DEP has been informed that Nulife will cease its lead smelting operations at the Dunkirk facility and surrender its Title V Air Permit.

CRT glass is being stored in five warehouses in northwest PA: two in the City of Erie, and one each in Girard, Lake City and Grove City.

The DEP says it denied the variance request because Nulife failed to adequately address the criteria for a variance under the Federal CRT Rule, including: The manner of recycling the CRT materials when the material would be recycled and the reason the stored CRT material had accumulated without being recycled. Nulife also failed to provide adequate assurances of its financial ability to properly dispose of the accumulated CRT materials, says the DEP.

As a result of the variance denial, the DEP has issued an order requiring Nulife to remove all 17 million pounds of stored CRT materials from all five warehouses within a year.

The order requires Nulife to remove a minimum of 5 million pounds of CRT materials by June 30, 2017, and continuing to remove CRT materials within a designated time frame until all CRT materials are removed by no later than February 28, 2018.

“DEP has an obligation to prevent pol-

lution and to protect the health and safety of its citizens,” said Jim Miller, regional director of Northwest PA DEP. “While we encourage new industries and technologies to address the recycling of older televisions and computers, those entities must do so within the rules and regulations established to protect Pennsylvanians.” DEP denied a similar request in October 2016.

Pennsylvania’s 2010 electronics recycling law bans the disposal of CRTs and other electronic waste in landfills and established an electronics recycling program that collects CRTs and other products for recycling to be paid for by electronics manufacturers.

At a hearing in March 2016 by the Joint Legislative Air and Water Pollution Control and Conservation Committee, everyone involved in the program from local governments to recyclers said the law does not work and needs to be fixed because electronics manufacturers were not paying for all the material being collected.

Source: www.wfmj.com/story/35029136/company-ordered-to-remove-lead-tainted-glass-from-grove-city-warehouse

