

**April 4, 2017**

### **Cumberland County Developing Electronics Recycling Center**

State legislation passed in 2010 implemented a disposal ban on televisions and various types of electronic equipment. The law required manufacturers to pay for the costs of electronics recycling to avoid consumers bearing that cost. However, the demand for electronics recycling has far outpaced the capacity of existing disposal outlets and has exceeded the amount of recycled material that manufacturers are required to recycle by law. Further, declining commodity markets have discouraged recyclers from pursuing electronics recycling contracts. As a result, residents of Cumberland County have not had access to regular electronics recycling outlets for over a year.

The Cumberland County Commissioners recently authorized staff to finalize a contract with a recycler to operate an electronics recycling facility in Middlesex Township. The County released a request for proposals in late 2016 looking for a recycler to provide electronics recycling services to the County. Sunnking from Brockport, NY was the selected contractor out of the four proposals that were submitted.

The County is currently making improvements to its “barn” located at 1001 Claremont Road in Middlesex Township to serve as the electronics recycling facility. The barn has been cleaned out and new lighting has been installed. An office trailer has been set up and scale systems are currently being evaluated. A Recycling Center Site Attendant position has been advertised and paperwork is being completed to register the program with the State.

The County will charge customers \$.50 per pound of electronics recycled. The fee offsets the County’s costs of operating the site and does not generate a profit. Customers will not be able to recycle electronics for free. Anyone regardless of place of residence may use the recycling center assuming fees are paid in full. Acceptable materials include:

- Televisions
- Computers & Accessories
- Mobile Devices
- Entertainment Equipment
- Office Equipment
- Data Center Equipment
- Cable Equipment

The recycling facility’s grand opening is projected for summer 2017. The facility will be open two days per week and a few Saturdays per month to start with hours running from late afternoon to early evening during the week and during the morning on the selected Saturdays. Final operating hours and procedures will be posted as the site gets closer to completion.

While the County’s recycling facility will provides a stop gap measure to address the electronics recycling issue, a comprehensive electronics legislative solution is still needed. The County has been working with its General Assembly delegation to identify the shortfalls of the existing legislation and develop long term sustainable electronics recycling solutions. If you have questions regarding the recycling facility, please contact the County’s Recycling and Waste Authority at 717-240-6489.