

# West Valley VIEW

The community newspaper of Avondale, Buckeye, Goodyear, Litchfield Park & Tolleson, AZ ❖ Phone (623) 535-8439

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## E-waste to be collected Sat.

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staff writer

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State officials have launched what they describe as an aggressive effort to collect electronic waste in the Southwest Valley.

"The buildup and disposition of electronic waste is a major problem in the state," said Mark Shaffer, a spokesman for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, or ADEQ.

That is why the agency is sponsoring with several community partners to gather electronic waste this Saturday in Parking Lot G of Estrella Mountain Community College, Shaffer said.

The free event, described by Shaffer as an "electronic waste collection effort," will be from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Avondale college, 3000 N. Dysart Road.

The community partners, in addition to the college, are Avondale, Goodyear, Litchfield Park, Tolleson, the Littleton Elementary School District and E-Waste Harvesters, a Phoenix firm, he said.

Officials hope that tons of unwanted goods will be dropped off, including televisions, computer equipment, monitors, batteries, chargers, cell phones, VCRs, CD and DVD players, printers, fax machines, stereos, small appliances, cables and cords, Shaffer said.

Companies and individuals donating electronic waste will receive a certificate of deposit for their records from E-Waste Harvesters, Shaffer said.

In addition, the recycling company will erase all computer hard drives with state of the art software and the firm will recycle all materials in accordance with state and federal regulations, he said.

Since August 2009, ADEQ has sponsored 26 such events through Arizona and has collected more that 325 tons of electronic waste, Shaffer added.

Henry Darwin, the acting ADEQ director, said it is a way to conserve landfill space and make sure that potentially toxic electronic waste is disposed of responsibly.

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