



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

## Electronic Waste Program Overview

[www.idem.IN.gov](http://www.idem.IN.gov)

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### Background:

- Electronics contain heavy metals, including lead, mercury, cadmium and hexavalent chromium that can be harmful if released into the environment. Recycling of electronics ensures these materials are safely managed and that valuable materials such as steel, glass and plastic are reclaimed for the manufacturing of new products.
- Effective July 1, 2009, the Indiana Legislature enacted the Indiana Electronic Waste (E-Waste) Law (IC 13-20.5). The law created an extended producer responsibility program that holds certain electronics manufacturers responsible for collecting and recycling a percentage of the products they sell in Indiana. The program will help reduce the amount of e-waste being sent to Indiana landfills and ensure that hazardous substances found in e-waste are being managed in an appropriate and environmentally responsible manner.
- Manufacturers of computer monitors (including laptops, netbooks, notebooks, tablet PCs and e-readers) and televisions (collectively known as video display devices or VDDs) sold or offered for sale to Indiana households are required to register with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and are responsible under the law for annually collecting and recycling or arranging for the collection and recycling of 60 percent, by weight, of the VDDs they manufacture and sell to Indiana households. Manufacturers are able to count the collection and recycling of a variety of electronics (referred to as covered electronic devices or CEDs) from Indiana households, public schools and small businesses towards meeting their 60 percent recycling goal.
- Manufacturers that do not sell or offer for sale their VDDs to Indiana households are exempt from complying with the requirements of the Indiana E-Waste Law.
- Manufacturers are able to work with e-waste collectors and recyclers to meet their 60 percent, by weight, recycling goal. Retailers, households, public schools and small businesses in Indiana will also have a role to play in the program.
- The initial program year began April 1, 2010. Manufacturer program years will run from April 1 to March 31 of the following year.

### Definitions:

- Covered entity – an Indiana household, public school or small business.
  - Household – occupants of a dwelling located in Indiana who use a VDD at the dwelling primarily for personal use or home office use.
  - Public school – a public school or charter school. A public school is a school maintained by a public school corporation established by Indiana law. A charter school is a public elementary school or secondary school that is nonsectarian and nonreligious and operates under a charter.
  - Small business – a business that satisfies all of the following:
    - The business is independently owned and operated.
    - The principal office of the business is located in Indiana.
    - The business satisfies either of the following:
      - The business has not more than 100 employees and not more than average annual gross receipts of \$10,000,000.
      - If the business is a manufacturing business, the business does not have more than 100 employees.

- Video display device (VDD) – a television or computer monitor, including a laptop computer, netbook, notebook, tablet PC and e-reader, that contains a cathode ray tube or flat panel screen with a screen size that is greater than four inches measured diagonally and is marketed by a manufacturer for use by covered entities.
- Covered electronic device (CED) – a computer, peripheral (such as a keyboard or printer), fax machine, DVD player, video cassette recorder or VDD that is sold to a covered entity by means of retail, wholesale or electronic commerce.
- Manufacturer – a person that:
  - Manufactures VDDs to be sold under the person’s own brand or a brand the person licenses as identified by the person’s own brand label or the brand label the person licenses;
  - Sells VDDs manufactured by others under the person’s own brand or a brand the person licenses as identified by the person’s own brand label or the brand label the person licenses; or,
  - Assumes the responsibilities and obligations of a manufacturer.
- Collector – a public or private entity that receives CEDs or collects CEDs from covered entities and arranges for the delivery of the CEDs to a recycler.
- Recycler – an individual or public entity that accepts CEDs from covered entities and collectors for the purpose of recycling.

**Roles and responsibilities of participants in the Indiana E-Waste Program:**

*Manufacturers*

- Beginning April 1, 2010, and each April 1 thereafter, manufacturers of VDDs sold or offered for sale to Indiana households must register with IDEM. These manufacturers are responsible for coordinating the collection and recycling of CEDs proportionate to 60 percent, by weight, of their sales of VDDs to Indiana households from the previous 12 months. This annual registration includes a fee of \$5,000 the initial year and \$2,500 each year thereafter.
- Possible methods of collection and recycling can include contracting with local collectors and recyclers; partnering with other entities; or putting in place a manufacturer mail-back program.
- Manufacturers are encouraged, through incentives, to utilize Indiana recyclers as well as expand their collection and recycling efforts into non-metropolitan counties in Indiana.

*Collectors*

- Collectors of CEDs in Indiana must annually register with IDEM in order to work with manufacturers as part of their collection and recycling efforts under the program. This annual registration involves no fee. Collectors must also document compliance with Indiana’s e-waste management rules (329 IAC 16).
- Before April 1, 2011, and before April 1 of each year thereafter, a collector of CEDs must report to IDEM the pounds of CEDs they collected in Indiana and a list of the recyclers to whom they delivered the CEDs during the preceding calendar year.

*Recyclers*

- Recyclers of CEDs in Indiana must annually register with IDEM in order to work with manufacturers as part of their collection and recycling efforts under the program. This annual registration involves no fee. Recyclers must also document compliance with Indiana’s e-waste management rules (329 IAC 16).
- Before April 1, 2011, and before April 1 of each year thereafter, a recycler of CEDs must report to IDEM the pounds of CEDs they recycled and/or transported for final disposal during the preceding calendar year.

*Retailers*

- Retailers of new VDDs to Indiana households must provide customers information on opportunities and locations for convenient collection of VDDs for recycling. Retailers may provide IDEM’s contact information or website ([www.recycle.IN.gov/6411.htm](http://www.recycle.IN.gov/6411.htm)) to customers to meet this requirement.

*Indiana Households, Public Schools and Small Businesses*

- Beginning in 2011, Indiana covered entities are prohibited from disposing of e-waste in with their standard trash collection.



**IDEM's Role:**

- IDEM is responsible for protecting human health and the environment while providing for safe industrial, agricultural, commercial and governmental operations vital to a prosperous economy.
- IDEM's Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance (OPPTA) is responsible for administering the Indiana E-Waste Program. OPPTA will assist participants in complying and registering with all aspects of the Indiana E-Waste Program.

**More Information:**

- For more information or specific participant category fact sheets on the Indiana E-Waste Program, please visit IDEM's website at <http://www.recycle.IN.gov/6411.htm>.
- For questions and concerns, please contact IDEM's Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance at (800) 988-7901.
- For more information on the Indiana Electronic Waste (E-Waste) Law, please visit <http://www.IN.gov/legislative/ic/code/title13/ar20.5/>.
- For more information on Indiana's electronic waste management rules, please visit <http://www.IN.gov/legislative/iac/T03290/A00160.PDF>.

