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**WITH SWITCH TO DIGITAL NEARING, WASTE MANAGEMENT
ENCOURAGES EVERYONE TO PUT ELECTRONICS TOWARDS REUSE**

Dated TVs contain plastic, glass, and metal that can be recycled

Phoenix, June 5th, 2009 – The transition from analog to digital is a week away, and many consumers are continuing to upgrade their outdated televisions in preparation of the June 12 deadline. While the switch to digital means better sound and picture quality, it also means more electronics entering the waste stream.

As a result, Waste Management of Arizona wants consumers to know the importance of giving these products a second life—not only to divert valuable resources from becoming waste, but to also save valuable landfill space.

Waste Management’s e-cycling depot in the Phoenix area is located at Earth Protection Services, 5355 N. 51st Ave, #26, in Glendale. Ewaste can be dropped off at this location where it will be processed for recycling. Sony, LG, Zenith, and Goldstar electronics will be accepted at no charge, and all other brands will be accepted for a small fee.

“We are already seeing a lot more of these outdated electronics leading up to the digital transition,” said Patrick DeRueda, president of Waste Management’s recycling services. “We hope to collect as much recyclable material as possible at our depots so that we may put these products towards reuse and recycling. This is part of our commitment to meet our sustainability goal of nearly tripling the amount of recyclables we manage by 2020.”

Recycling old gadgets means that useful materials – such as glass, plastic and metals – can be collected, disassembled and manufactured into other products.

Recycling also reduces the amount of raw materials extracted, as well as energy required to make new materials.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, approximately two million tons of e-waste is recycled each year and that five million tons, a majority of which is consumer electronics, is currently being stored in garages and basements. For many electronics, most components can be recycled, like the glass screen on a television, the plastic casing, or the bits of metal in the circuit boards.

“People should also feel confident that whatever materials they drop-off will be handled in an environmentally safe manner,” DeRueda said. “Protecting the environment along with the people handling this waste stream is our highest priority.”

All electronics processed at Waste Management facilities are ISO 14001 and 9001 certified. In addition, Waste Management is also a signatory of the Basel Action Network’s Electronics Recycler’s Pledge of True Stewardship to manage electronic waste in a safe and environmentally conscious manner. This signifies the agreement to conduct electronics recycling transparently and in accord with rigorous environmental and worker safety standards, and to also adhere to measures preventing the export of hazardous e-waste to developing countries.

For more information about our e-waste recycling operations, and to find a depot near you, please visit: www.wm.com/lq or www.wm.com/sony

About Waste Management

Waste management and its 980 Arizona employees provide waste and recycling services to nearly 500,000 customers throughout Arizona. For more information, go to www.wmofarizona.com.

Waste Management, based in Houston, Texas, is the leading provider of comprehensive waste management services in North America. Our subsidiaries provide collection, transfer, recycling and resource recovery, and disposal services. We are also a leading developer, operator and owner of waste-to-energy and landfill gas-to-energy facilities in the United States. Our customers include residential, commercial, industrial, and municipal customers throughout North America. To learn more information about Waste Management visit www.wm.com or www.thinkgreen.com.

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