



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 23, 2011

Reduced Electronics Recycling Fees Take Effect August 1, 2011

Ontario Electronic Stewardship announces numerous fee reductions on new electronic products

TORONTO – June 23, 2011 – Ontario Electronic Stewardship (OES) is revising the environmental fees charged to the makers and importers of new electronic products (called Stewards), effective Aug. 1, 2011, with most being reduced. Money from these fees goes toward running Ontario’s electronics recycling program, which ensures the hazardous components contained in electronics don’t end up in landfill where they could contaminate the environment, and that valuable components such as base and precious metals, plastic and glass are reclaimed and recycled into new products.

“We are pleased to be able to, in the majority of cases, reduce the fees that fund Ontario’s waste electronics recycling program,” said Carol Hochu, Executive Director, OES. “As the manager of the program, OES reviews the fee structure in consultation with our Stewards to ensure that they reflect and respond to rapidly changing technology, new products, and market trends.”

As a not-for-profit organization, OES manages the sustainable industry-led program to divert end-of-life electronics in Ontario through reuse and refurbishment, as well as the safe and environmentally sound recycling of the various components. The current fees, which are designed to accurately reflect the true cost of collecting, transporting, and responsibly recycling end-of-life electronics, expire July 31, 2011, with the new fees taking effect August 1.

Manufacturers and importers of designated electronic equipment (Stewards) are obligated to register, report and pay fees to OES that cover 100 per cent of the costs of managing the electronic waste program. The individual companies and their supply chain partners, including retailers, determine whether they will internalize the cost or charge consumers an Environmental Handling Fee (EHF) at the point-of-purchase. If an EHF is charged, it should not exceed the fee charged by OES to Stewards for that item.

The following chart outlines the revised environmental fees charged to Stewards, effective August 1:

Fees (\$ / unit)		OLD	NEW <i>(eff. Aug. 1)</i>	
Display Devices	≤ 29" Screen	Computer Monitors	\$12.25	\$11.00
		Display Devices <18"	\$12.25	\$11.00
		Display Device 18"-29"	\$12.25	\$11.00
		All-in-One (AIO) Computers	\$12.25	\$11.00
	> 29" Screen	Displays > 29"-45"	\$26.25	\$25.00
		Displays > 45"	\$26.25	\$25.00
Desktop Computers		\$7.80	\$3.50	

Fees (\$ / unit)		OLD	NEW <i>(eff. Aug. 1)</i>
Portable Computers		\$2.75	\$0.70
Computer Peripherals	Mice	\$0.40	\$0.05
	Keyboards	\$0.40	\$0.05
	Hard Drives	\$0.40	\$0.05
	Optical Drives	\$0.40	\$0.05
	Modems	\$0.40	\$0.05
Printing, Copying and Multi-Function Devices	Desktop Printing, Copying and Multi-Function Devices	\$5.40	\$5.40
	Floor-Standing Printing Devices	\$32.50	\$32.50
	Floor-Standing Copying and Multi-Function Devices	\$32.50	\$32.50
Telephones and Telephone Answering Machines		\$1.00	\$1.00
Cellular Devices and Pagers		\$0.10	\$0.01
Image, Audio and Video Devices	Personal/Portable	\$0.40	\$0.10
	Home/Non-Portable	\$2.75	\$1.45
	Home Theatre in a Box (HTB)	\$9.95	\$7.80
	Aftermarket Vehicle Radio	\$2.85	\$1.55

According to Environment Canada, an estimated 140,000 tonnes of e-waste are discarded annually in Canadian landfills, and this number continues to increase.

“Since commencing operations on April 1, 2009, OES has diverted more than 52,000 tonnes of electronic items from being dumped in landfill sites – that’s the equivalent of 6,500 tractor-trailers,” said Hochu. “Over the past two years, OES has made huge strides, visiting communities across the province to collect old, unwanted electronics, and has established a network of hundreds of collectors and processors, which helps create and sustain new, green jobs. We will continue this important work to keep electronics – along with their hazardous components – from ending up in landfill.”

For more information about OES and the fee reduction, visit www.ontarioelectronicstewardship.ca. To find your nearest collection site or event, visit www.recycleyourelectronics.ca.



About Ontario Electronic Stewardship

Ontario Electronic Stewardship (OES), a not-for-profit industry organization, oversees the responsible reuse and recycling of waste electronics through a program that includes hundreds of collection sites and numerous other affiliate sites across the province. Every Ontario resident and business is encouraged to safely recycle their electronics.

The program was developed with Waste Diversion Ontario on behalf of the Ontario government under the *Waste Diversion Act*. The OES electronic waste recycling program accepts 44 items of electronic waste including computers, televisions, DVD players, hand-held devices and more.

-30 -

Media Contact:

Sandra Pakosh

Email: spakosh@ontarioelectronicstewardship.ca

Phone: 416-380-4545