



Want Recycling? **DEMAND IT!**

[Weigh in on Philadelphia's Waste and Recycling Budget](#)

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Weigh in on the Streets Department's Budget Proposal

Wednesday, February 25, 5:30 – 7:00pm

Municipal Services Building, 15th and Arch, Room 1450

Waste and recycling has been a hot topic recently in Philadelphia. Last week at a PhillySTAT session, Deputy Mayor Rina Cutler and Commissioner Clarena Tolson introduced their plan to dramatically cut the Streets Department of Philadelphia's yearly budget. The plan includes a \$5 weekly sanitation fee for all residents (not to be confused with pay as you throw), solar trash compactors, public recycling receptacles, and possibly incentive based recycling. This bold proposal has prompted many heated debates.

Wednesday, February 25, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. the Streets Department will be hosting a constituent briefing session to inform the public and take comments on their proposed plan. We urge ALL Philadelphian's, especially our fellow advocates, to attend this meeting and provide YOUR input into the future of waste and recycling in Philadelphia.

Don't let your old TV contribute to dangerous pollution.

Congress recently passed the DTV Delay Act, which extends the deadline for full-power broadcast TV stations to complete the DTV transition from February 17, 2009, to June 12, 2009. The new law allows more time for consumers to be prepared for the DTV transition. However, Congress did not require stations to continue broadcasting in analog after February 17th, and stations may choose to complete their transition, and stop broadcasting in analog, before June 12th. If you have purchased or are planning to purchase a new TV, make sure you recycle your old TV or donate it for reuse. **TVs contain hazardous materials like lead and mercury and should NEVER be thrown in a landfill!**

How to recycle unusable TVs:

All electronics can be dropped off for recycling at either Domino Ln. & Umbria St. or State Rd. & Ashburner St. at the Streets Department Sanitation Convenience Centers, Monday through Saturday, from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm.

You can also check out PA's Department of Environmental Protection's website to find a licensed electronics recycler in your area:

<http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/landrecwaste/cwp/view.asp?a=1242&q=464411>.

MYTH: Recycling won't save businesses money.

FACT: A well-planned and executed recycling program saves money on disposal fees.

Even though the prices for recycled material have fallen dramatically, recycling programs cost considerably less than sending waste to the landfill or incinerator, which costs on average \$65-

\$75/ton. With disposal costs so high, this is an ideal time for businesses to assess the amount of waste they create. Businesses can easily reduce waste through purchasing products with less or reusable packaging and using paperless technology. According to the GrassRoots Recycling Network, large companies such as Xerox, Hewlett-Packard, and Pillsbury have all achieved close to 95 percent recycling rates – with an eventual goal of zero waste. Philadelphia-based businesses, Northern Liberties Press and Yards Brewing Company have also made a commitment to recycling and are seeing the benefits in lower disposal costs. For more information on starting or improving a commercial recycling program please visit the Greater Philadelphia Commercial Recycling Council's website www.gpcrc.com.