



OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXECUTIVE

WHITE HOUSE TASK FORCE ON WASTE PREVENTION AND RECYCLING

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PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP THROUGHOUT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

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The Federal Electronics Recycling and Reuse Challenge

This November 15th marks the eighth annual America Recycles Day (ARD), a day where all Americans are encouraged to do their part to support environmental stewardship by recycling and buying recycled content products. This year the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive (OFEE), the Federal Electronics Challenge (FEC), and signatory Agencies of the Federal Electronics Stewardship Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) are issuing a special challenge to encourage all Federal facilities to lead by example and recycle, or donate their used computers and other electronic equipment to local schools or Hurricanes Katrina and Rita relief efforts.

The Federal government is the largest information technology (IT) equipment and service purchaser in the world, with an IT budget of over \$60 billion in FY 2005. Unfortunately when new equipment is purchased, the previous generations of equipment sit unused, tucked away in basements, closets, and warehouses of Federal facilities across the nation, with no plans for their future. Much of this equipment can be either recycled, or reused, in the communities where we live and in the workplace.

To encourage Federal facilities and agencies to improve their used electronics management, OFEE, the FEC, and MOU Agency members will launch the **Federal Electronics Recycling and Reuse Challenge**. This program will begin on November 15, 2005, and conclude on Earth Day, April 22, 2006, where selected facilities will receive national recognition by the Federal Environmental Executive at an awards ceremony based on the amount of electronics recycled or donated during the five month period between ARD 2005 and Earth Day 2006.

On November 10, 2005 we will post a new web site: www.federalelectronicchallenge.net/errc, where you can get more information about the program, register to participate, and obtain tools that will help your facility participate in the Challenge, as well as improve management of your used electronics.

I encourage all Federal facilities to participate and further contribute to our Nation's efforts to recycle used electronics. If you any questions, please contact Juan Lopez, at 202-564-5214, lopez.juan@ofee.gov; Laura Nazef, at 202-564-7523, nazef.laura@epa.gov; or Chris Newman, at 312-353-8402, newman.christopherm@epa.gov, for more information.

Sincerely,

Edwin Piñero
Federal Environmental Executive