

Council to hold first e-waste collection in January

The Borough of Queenscliffe will host its first E-waste Collection Day on Saturday, 21 January 2012 at the Queenscliff Town Hall.

E-waste includes electrical or electronic items with a cord. Televisions, computer desktops, printers and scanners, hairdryers, toasters, telephones, drills and games consoles will be among the items accepted at the 21 January collection day.

Council's Sustainability Officer, Jacqueline Wilson said the event has been organized to support residents in recycling their old, broken or unwanted electrical items safely instead of sending them to landfill.

"The 21 January collection day will provide Borough of Queenscliffe residents with a convenient local drop-off option for e-waste items at a very low price," Ms Wilson said.

"Some electrical appliances contain toxic chemicals including barium, phosphor, lead and hexavalent chromium, which if released into landfills could eventually leach into waterways and the surrounding environment.

"Residents can be assured all e-waste accepted on the collection day will be 100% recycled through our partnership with Geelong Disabled Peoples' Industries (GDP) in Geelong."

Staff from GDP will disassemble the e-waste into components including plastics, glass, metals, wiring and circuit boards. These components will then be sent to various recovery facilities for recycling into new products or reuse.

By utilizing the services of GDP, Council is ensuring a safe disposal option for e-waste items while supporting an organization that offers employment opportunities for people with a disability.

The small fees charged during the collection day will cover the recycling charges at GDP.

Volunteers from the local Men's Shed, Rotary and Lions Clubs in Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale will be assisting Council officers to accept e-waste from residents during the 21 January collection day.

"We appreciate the assistance from these organisations in delivering this initiative to our residents and encourage everyone to take advantage of this great opportunity," Ms Wilson said.

Council will be accepting specific e-waste items in skips adjacent to the Town Hall from 9am to 1pm.

Residents should contact Council's Sustainability Officer, Jacqueline Wilson on 5258 1377 for more information.