

Lake County plans recycling collections

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Several popular special recycling collections will be available again this year for county residents.

Collections are done in collaboration with the Lake County Solid Waste District, county commissioners, county Utilities Department and Ohio State University Extension in Lake County.

The first collection is for old computers from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 27 at the county fairgrounds in Painesville Township.

Acceptable items include home computer equipment, including CPUs and monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, modems and speakers. Cell phones are also accepted.

No televisions, microwave ovens, typewriters, DVD players, cameras or VCRs will be accepted.

Last year, the collection had 525 vehicles show up to bring 20.3 tons of material, said Chris Hodges, who is with the Utilities Department and serves as Solid Waste District coordinator.

A scrap tire collection will be held from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 11 at the fairgrounds.

There is no cost to bring up to six tires with no rims attached, Hodges said. For each tire with rims, there is a \$4 charge and there is a \$10 charge for oversize tires like those on farm tractors.

Last year, 640 vehicles brought 45.3 tons of tires to be collected, equalling about 4,200 tires, he said.

Two collections will be held at the fairgrounds for household hazardous waste.

The dates are June 8 and Sept. 28, both from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Acceptable items include household cleaners and solvents, thinners, kerosene, turpentine, lighter fluid, strippers, used motor oil, diesel fuel, gasoline, coolants, antifreeze, grease, oil-based paints, varnish, shellacs, stains, aerosols, polyurethanes, primers, grout, liquid/solid pool lawn and garden chemicals, pesticides, weed killers, spray insecticides, batteries (all sizes and including lead acid and household), fluorescent bulbs (all sizes), photography chemicals, "hobby" chemicals, mercury, empty propane tanks, roofing tars, drive sealers.

No water-based paints, radioactive (smoke alarms), ammunition, explosives or medical waste will be accepted.

"Typically, we get about 2,700 cars that come through for these two collections," Hodges said. "Of those, we bring in about 128.5 tons of stuff. Out of all those materials usually greater than 50 percent is recycled. The rest is neutralized or incinerated."

A scrap phone book collection has been discontinued this year because of dwindling volume, Hodges said.

He said in the past few years the phone book collection sites weren't filling a single bin.

One reason is because the Internet has decreased demand for phone books and there are recycling bins for paper that now accept phone books.

For more information about the special collections, visit: www.lakecountyohio.gov/utilities/Divisions/SolidWaste/SpecialCollections.aspx.