



DAN DEASY

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

REPORT TO THE PEOPLE

MARCH 2013

Update on voter ID

The May primary elections will have voters casting a ballot in the Pittsburgh mayoral race, county judicial races and other important offices. Many Pittsburghers will be relieved to learn that implementation of the voter ID law has been delayed again. Both sides in the court case reached an agreement to delay the restrictive law's requirements, and court proceedings are scheduled to resume this summer. Some polling-place workers may ask to see a photo ID, but again, it is NOT required yet.

If you are voting in a new precinct for the first time, the old regulations will still apply, which means you will have to have some form of acceptable identification, which includes:

- Confirmation issued by the county voter registration office
- Non-photo ID issued by the commonwealth or the U.S. government
- Current utility bill
- Current bank statement
- Current paycheck or government check

If you have a question about voter ID or a related question, please contact my office or the Allegheny County Elections Division at 412-350-4500.

Small games of chance overhaul bill

Help is on the way for beleaguered veterans' groups, fire companies, fraternal organizations and small clubs victimized by ruinous changes to the rules governing small games of chance.

Some provisions of Act 2 of 2012 created havoc among nonprofits, veterans' groups, fire companies and charity fundraisers. Among other things, House Bill 290, which passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 186-10, would allow "Night at the Races," poker runs and other games; permit social card games and tournaments, including Texas Hold 'em tournaments; increase prize limits for small games of chance; and allow groups to conduct games of chance at another organization's licensed premises.

It is my hope that the state Senate will act expeditiously on this legislation. This bill is vital to valuable community groups who have long histories of benefitting from small games of chance. For more information or a copy of this bill, please call my office.

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New Pa. law on electronic waste

Pennsylvanians are no longer able to dispose of electronic devices like computers, laptops, monitors and televisions with their trash. New rules for electronic devices took effect in January which state you must make sure that they get recycled appropriately.

Under Act 108 of 2010, the Covered Device Recycling Act, Pennsylvania consumers can dispose of electronic devices for free at area locations.

This law also applies to manufacturers. Under the law, manufacturers must keep electronics out of landfills, prevent hazardous disposal, and must provide for the collection, transportation and recycling of the devices.

More information also is available at the state Department of Environmental Protection website, www.depweb.state.pa.us, using "Electronics Recycling" as the keyword.

Additional recycling information for Pittsburgh residents, including drop-off locations, is available on the city website at www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/pw/html/recycling.html.

Protecting animals from abuse

I was proud to vote for a bill in January that will hopefully aid animal shelters in their efforts to protect animals from abuse.

The cost of caring for animals in cases of suspected abuse can be exorbitant, and shelters can incur significant costs when they try to intervene in situations of animal cruelty. House Bill 82 would require pet owners to pay for reasonable shelter, food and veterinary costs to keep the animals safe and healthy while a case is decided.

In the case of a not-guilty verdict, the costs of caring for the animal would be returned to the owner.

The legislation passed the House and awaits action in the Senate.

Dial 2-1-1 for FREE, quick access to valuable state resources

211 Southwest is a free, easy-to-remember phone number that connects Allegheny County residents with information on health and human service agencies. Operators can help you find information on programs such as:

- Area food banks
- Mortgage assistance
- Employment resources
- Utility assistance including electric, gas, heating fuel, water, phone & Internet
- Volunteer opportunities
- And much more

Enclosed please find a brochure that provides additional information on this great resource. You may also visit their website for additional information – www.pa211sw.org.

 www.pahouse.com/Deasy

 RepDeasy@pahouse.net

 1.412.928.9514

➤ District Office:
436 S. Main St., Suite 100
Pittsburgh, PA 15220

The Covered Device Recycling (Act 108) of 2010 (CDRA) A General Overview

Electronic products constitute one of the fastest growing streams of today's consumer and commercial waste. In November 2010, the Pennsylvania General Assembly passed the CDRA, which establishes a number of requirements for individuals and entities involved throughout the life cycle of certain "covered" electronic devices. Covered devices include: **desktop computers, laptop computers, computer monitors, computer peripherals and televisions.**

Beginning Jan. 1, 2012, most of the CDRA requirements go into effect. Outlined below, these requirements address the manufacture, sales, and end-of-life collection, management and recycling of covered devices in Pennsylvania.

- **Manufacturers** of covered devices offered for sale in Pennsylvania:
 - Must annually register their covered device brands with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and affix brand labels to their covered devices.
 - Must establish and conduct ongoing recycling programs that offer covered device collection opportunities at no cost to consumers.¹ The term "no cost" means no fee may be charged unless a financial incentive, such as a coupon or rebate, of equal or greater value is provided to the consumer. The devices collected through these programs must be properly recycled at certified electronics recycling facilities. The initial recycling plan must be approved by DEP by Jan. 1, 2012, and subsequently, Jan. 30 of each year thereafter.
 - Must report annual covered device collection and recycling data to DEP.
- **Retailers** that offer covered devices for sale in Pennsylvania:
 - May only sell covered devices that are labeled with a brand registered with DEP.
 - Must notify customers of how and where they can recycle their covered devices.
 - Are not required to offer covered device collection opportunities; but if they do, they must offer them to consumers at no cost. The term "no cost" means no fee may be charged unless a financial incentive, such as a coupon or rebate, of equal or greater value is provided. Any devices collected from consumers must be properly recycled at certified recycling facilities.
- **Electronics Recycling Facilities:**
 - Whether located in or outside of Pennsylvania, facilities that process or recycle covered devices that are collected from consumers through any electronics collection program in Pennsylvania, whether municipal, manufacturer, retailer, etc., must have achieved and maintained one of the following certifications:
 - R2 (Responsible Recycling Practices Standard) Certification.
 - e-Stewards Certification.
 - An internationally accredited third-party environmental management standard for the safe and responsible handling of covered devices.
 - Currently Pennsylvania's Residual Waste Regulations require electronics processing/recycling facilities located in Pennsylvania to obtain a DEP general permit #WMGR081 (regarding the processing and beneficial use of electronic equipment and components by sorting, disassembling or mechanical processing) prior to processing any electronic devices or electronic waste.
- **The Pennsylvania DEP:**
 - Will post and maintain a list of registered and non-compliant covered device brands on its website for retailers and consumers to access.
 - Will also post on its website and make available via its toll-free recycling hotline (1-800-346-4242) an up-to-date list of all covered device collection opportunities offered to consumers, including those offered by manufacturers and retailers.

¹ The CDRA defines a consumer as "An occupant of a single detached dwelling unit or a single unit of a multiple dwelling unit who has used a covered device primarily for personal or small business use. For purposes of this definition, a small business is an entity that is independently owned or operated, employs 50 or fewer people, has purchased or leased a covered computer device from a computer manufacturer or retailer and, but for the program established under this act, would not otherwise have access to electronic recycling programs."

- Will review manufacturers' covered device collection and recycling plans, and will oversee the implementation of all approved plans to ensure compliance with the CDRA.
- Will encourage the use of existing covered device collection infrastructure to the extent that it is available to at least 85 percent of the commonwealth's population, is cost effective, and is environmentally sound.
- Will organize and coordinate public education and outreach regarding the recycling of covered devices, including assisting retailers as necessary in the conduct of their public education and outreach efforts.

Beginning Jan. 24, 2013, a disposal ban on covered devices goes into effect in Pennsylvania. From this point forward, no person may dispose of a covered device, or any of its components, with their municipal solid waste. These devices and their components must be properly recycled and may not be taken to, nor accepted by, landfills or other solid waste disposal facilities for disposal. However, non-hazardous residuals of covered devices that are produced during the recycling of those devices are excluded from the disposal ban. The effects of the disposal ban are outlined below.

- **Consumers:** The CDRA defines a consumer as "An occupant of a single detached dwelling unit or a single unit of a multiple dwelling unit who has used a covered device primarily for personal or small business use. For purposes of this definition, a small business is an entity that is independently owned or operated, employs 50 or fewer people, has purchased or leased a covered computer device from a computer manufacturer or retailer and, but for the program established under this act, would not otherwise have access to electronic recycling programs."
 - May not dispose of their covered devices with municipal waste.
 - Must take their covered devices to an electronics collection location for proper recycling, place their covered devices for curbside collection if a specific electronics collection program is offered or utilize an approved mail-back program to recycle their covered devices.
- **Businesses:**
 - May not dispose of their covered devices with municipal waste.
 - Will need to recycle their covered devices. For businesses, the recycling facility that covered devices are transferred to does not need to be certified. If the facility is located in Pennsylvania, it must have a general permit #WMGR081 from DEP.
- **Landfills and Resource Recovery Facilities:**
 - May not accept covered devices or their components for disposal. However, they may accept non-hazardous residuals produced during the recycling of covered devices.
 - Owners and operators of landfills will not be found in violation of the CDRA provided they make a good faith effort to comply with the Act; post, in a conspicuous location at the facility, a sign stating that covered devices and their components will not be accepted; and notify, in writing, all collectors registered to deposit solid waste to the facility that covered devices and their components will not be accepted at the facility.
- **Haulers:**
 - May not intentionally accept covered devices for disposal from any source of waste, and may not knowingly commingle covered devices with waste destined for disposal.
 - Covered devices that are collected from consumers through electronics collection programs in Pennsylvania must continue to be transferred to certified electronics recycling facilities.
 - If a hauler is affiliated with a Manufacturers Recycling plan and/or program they may not charge a consumer for the collection, transportation or recycling of covered devices.

For more information on the CDRA, visit www.dep.state.pa.us (select 'Electronics Recycling' from the 'DEP Programs A - Z' menu), or contact the **Recycling Hotline** at 1-800-346-4242, or contact:

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
 Bureau of Waste Management
 Division of Waste Minimization and Planning
 Rachel Carson State Office Building
 P.O. Box 8472
 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8472
 Telephone: 717-787-7382

For more information, visit www.dep.state.pa.us, keyword: Electronics Recycling.