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Reruns good for old TV sets

■ Recycling televisions keeps toxic waste out of land and water.

BY PHILIP LANE
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Tulsa residents who choose to prepare themselves for the digital television switchover by purchasing a new television set could find themselves facing a new problem: what should they do with their old TV?

If you don't want to continue using the set by adding a digital tuner

or connecting it to cable or satellite service, your initial reaction might be to put it out with the rest of the trash.

Television recycling facilities are not as widely available as plastic, glass, or aluminum facilities, but many services exist to assist consumers in the recycling process.

For those looking to replace a TV set, consumer electronics stores Best Buy and Circuit City offer pickup and recycling of your old television when you have your new one delivered, but it often requires a fee to cover delivery to a television recycler.

If you are not purchasing a new TV, Office Depot sells boxes that can be filled with electronic items and returned to the store for recycling.

This method is only viable for smaller sets, though. The largest box available will not accept televisions with screens larger than 13 or 14 inches, and TVs with cracked or broken tubes are not accepted.

If the screen is larger or the tube is broken, it would likely be best to seek out a dedicated recycling facility that accepts TVs, like Natural

SEE TVS A4

Toxic TVs

Traditional tube TVs contain small but significant amounts of many toxic substances and as much as eight pounds of lead. These materials should not be released in landfills, evaporate into the atmosphere or seep into groundwater supplies.

Source: EPA



TVS:

Tulsa's Natural Evolution Inc. has seen its TV recycling volume rise 50 percent.

FROM A1

Evolution Inc. at 5719 E. 13th St. in Tulsa.

President Traci Phillips said Natural Evolution has seen its television recycling volume rise 50 percent each of the last two years.

The company accepts TVs of any size for a flat \$15 fee and will provide unloading services.

The casing and internal components of the TV are separated and recycled in a zero landfill process.

Any of these options is an environmentally safe process, far healthier than allowing dangerous materials to escape into the environment.

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