

Press Release

North Tipperary sees green at free WEEE collection day!

March 5th, 2010 The residents of North Tipperary have been a busy lot, digging out their broken televisions, old kettles and used batteries for recycling!

Following on from the collections of waste electrical and electronic products (WEEE) in North Tipperary on the 27th February, North Tipperary County Council has confirmed that 46 tonnes of waste was collected over the course of the day – 30 tonnes in Thurles and 16 tonnes in Templemore. This is the equivalent in weight to 760 fridge freezers, 2,300 TVs or 17,040 toasters!

The WEEE collection in North Tipperary was organised by WEEE Ireland in association with North Tipperary County Council. Many people availed of the opportunity to have their old electrical appliances recycled. Everything from PCs, dishwashers and washing machines to cookers, kettles and DVD players were dropped off at these sites.

Environmental Awareness Officer for North Tipperary County Council, Deirdre Cox said: "I am very pleased with the results of the collections. The response was phenomenal, which shows the commitment of North Tipperary to recycling".

WEEE stands for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment, which is anything from your house with a plug or a battery. This may include large household appliances like fridges and washing machines, but also smaller equipment like toasters, electric toothbrushes and children's toys. The responsible management of this waste is of utmost importance, as many of these items contain substances which may pose a threat to the environment and human health if placed in your black or green bin or dumped illegally.

This was WEEE Ireland and North Tipperary County Council's 12th WEEE collection to date. Over the last few years, North Tipperary has led the way, recycling over 236 tonnes of WEEE waste.

After WEEE Collection Days, the waste goods are brought to a consolidation point within Ireland, to be sorted by WEEE Ireland's approved contractors. TV's and monitors are dismantled. The larger domestic items such as washing machines and dishwashers are de-polluted (i.e. printed circuit boards

and capacitors removed). The remaining steel and plastic are then recycled at various locations throughout the country. Smaller domestic items such as kettles are treated similarly and also recycled within Ireland. All copper from cables and precious metals from computers are re-used and recycled. Fridges and freezers are exported to the UK, where the CFC content is removed.

North Tipperary County Council would like to remind members of the public that WEEE can be brought, free of charge, to the following Recycling Centres in North Tipperary : Ballaghveny Landfill Recycling Centre, Nenagh Recycling Centre, Limerick Road and Roscrea Civic Amentiy Site, Old Dublin Road, Roscrea. For further detail, please visit www.tipperarynorth.ie as opening hours vary.

ENDS

Further information
Deirdre Cox,
Environmental Awareness Officer
087 637 3874