



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 20, 2010

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Yolo County Encourages Safe Recycling **“Make a Resolution to Recycle”**

(Woodland, CA) – With the holiday season behind us, Yolo County reminds residents there are free, local collection sites for universal waste such as batteries, cell phones and electronics, all of which are prohibited from going into the landfill. “Universal waste” refers to the most common and universally available hazardous household products and includes items like televisions, computers, microwaves, fluorescent lights, household batteries, cell phones and mercury-containing devices. Not only is it illegal to throw universal waste in the trash, but when improperly disposed, universal waste may pose a risk to human health and the environment.

“Each year, we see a post-holiday increase in household trash,” said Marissa Juhler, Yolo County Waste Reduction and Sustainability Manager. “It is especially important at this time of year that residents properly manage universal waste. We encourage residents to buy electronics from companies that take them back for recycling and to bring batteries, cell phones, fluorescent lights and other products to our free collection events at the Yolo County Central Landfill and various retail locations throughout Yolo County.”

Consumers can reduce battery waste by replacing alkaline batteries with rechargeable batteries in electronic toys and gadgets. Rechargeable batteries can be recharged many times and then recycled throughout Yolo County. To find a local battery and cell phone recycling site, visit the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation’s website: www.call2recycle.org and input zip code to find a location nearby.

Popular consumer items such as singing greeting cards, light-up shoes and talking toys may have batteries, which means they can not be disposed of in the trash. These items are not hazardous, but the batteries cannot go in the landfill.

“We encourage consumers to consider the lifecycle impacts of the things they buy and to ask manufacturers to ‘design it green and take-it-back’ at the end-of-life,” said Heidi Sanborn, Executive Director of the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC).

CPSC is a partner in Yolo County’s Household Hazardous Waste Grant awarded by the Department of Resources Recovery and Recycling (CalRecycle). CPSC is a non-profit organization that educates

consumers, businesses and policy makers about the economic and environmental benefits of increasing stewardship by the producers of products. CPSC's consumer webpage (www.calpsc.org/consumer/index.html) includes information to help consumers make eco-friendly purchasing decisions and suggests ways consumers can advocate for product stewardship.

For more information on universal waste recycling in Yolo County, go to: www.yolocounty.org (select Landfill link and then Household Hazardous Waste).

The Yolo County Central Landfill is located at 44090 County Road 28H in Woodland and is open seven days a week, Monday through Saturday from 6:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The landfill's automated phone system (530-666-8729) offers details about Yolo County's e-waste and universal waste recycling programs and provides directions to the site.

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The California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) is an organization of more than 100 local governments and associations and hundreds of other partners, formed to support development of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework and its implementation. EPR is policy whereby product manufacturers are responsible for the life cycle of their products. CPSC's mission is to shift California's product waste management system from one focused on government funded and ratepayer financed waste diversion to one that relies on producer responsibility in order to reduce public costs and drive improvements in product design that promote environmental sustainability.