



Perris News

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E-waste Collection Event Raises Money for Local Non-Profit

Volunteers collected dozens of televisions, batteries, computer monitors and other electronic waste Saturday as part of an effort to properly dispose of broken and outdated devices while raising money for a Perris non-profit agency.

Eagles Wings Community Outreach Center collected hundreds of pounds of "e-waste," which was turned over to a professional recycler for disposal. A percentage of the recycling proceeds will be returned to Eagles Wings to help the church continue its community development work.

The non-denominational church partners with the group "Mentoring Today for Tomorrow" and operates an after-school program for parents and children, teaching them proper nutrition, appreciation of other cultures, even digital photography. Parents get some tips on what to expect when their youngsters enter kindergarten.

Patricia Wiggins, a member of Eagles Wings, supervised Saturday's cleanup. She said the church distributed 2,000 fliers around the City. Newspaper announcements helped boost participation too.

"This gets electronic waste out of the landfills and into the hands of the people who can recycle it and dispose of it properly," she said.

Wiggins said that by day's end, organizers collected more than 30 televisions and 50 computer towers, enough to fill seven pallets.

"I am not surprised at the response but I am very pleased," she said.

Gary Stone said he brought a television and computer monitor to recycle after reading a notice about the cleanup.

"You just can't throw this stuff away," he said.

Throughout the course of the cleanup, cars and vans periodically rolled up to the church parking lot on A Street. Residents opened the rear seats and trunks to reveal outmoded and broken high-tech gadgetry.

The recyclables were tossed into large cardboard boxes.

Business owner Richard Mestas said he received an email about the cleanup. That was enough to prompt him to come and recycle a television and two computer monitors.

"To be honest, I've had this stuff in the house for a while and I wanted to get rid of it," Mestas said. "When I saw this was for a good cause, it made the decision easy."

Wiggins said Eagles Wings Community Outreach Center likely will hold another e-waste cleanup sometime this summer.



Patricia Wiggins of Eagles Wings Community Outreach Center looks over some of the ewaste collected during the recent cleanup.



Richard Mestas unloads an obsolete television.



Gary Stone (left) helps remove a discarded television from his vehicle.

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