

## February 2016 Newsletter



**eliminating waste in Nebraska.**

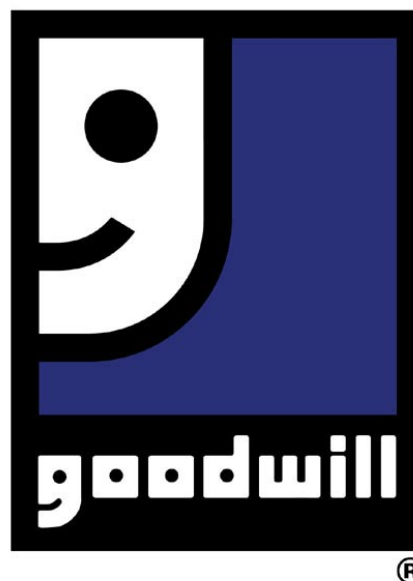
### **Goodwill Neighborhood Challenge: April 1 - June 17**

The Neighborhood Challenge is a friendly competition between the Neighborhood Associations of Lincoln. It is a seasonal event where the Associations/Organizations are encouraged to host neighborhood garage sales or donation drives for Goodwill.

The top three Associations/Organizations who collect the most donations will win a cash prize to help strengthen their neighborhood.

To register or to learn more:

<http://lincolngoodwill.org/goodwill-neighborhood-challenge>



### **North American Battery Recycling Program Sets New Record in 2015**

Atlanta-based Call2Recycle Inc., North America's first and largest product stewardship organization managing the only no-cost battery and cellphone collection program, reported that its collections increased 5 percent during 2015 to a record 12.6 million pounds (5.7 million kilograms). Enhanced awareness contributed to record-breaking battery collections in the United States and Canada, the organization says.



"Our battery recycling results are directly linked to the vital support of our program participants, consumers and key constituents," says Carl Smith, CEO and president of Call2Recycle. "Without their environmental commitment, we would not be able to continue collecting and arguably become one of the most successful recycling programs in North America."

This marks the 19th consecutive year the organization has generated a year-over-year increase (since collections began in 1996) in the volume of batteries diverted from landfills and recycled. Call2Recycle says it ensures that these items, which contain valuable resources, are responsibly recycled to create new batteries and other products, keeping potentially hazardous materials from entering the waste stream.

Call WasteCap today to get set up on the Call2Recycle program and to read the full article:

<http://www.recyclingtoday.com/article/call2recycle-battery-recycling-record-2015>

## More Sign of Trouble for U.S. E-Scrap Recovery

Best Buy's recent announcement that it will start charging \$25 to recycle each TV and computer monitor indicates that the already stressed U.S. electronics collection infrastructure has gotten worse.



We can hardly blame Best Buy or any other collector that stepped up to make recycling easier for consumers. Back in 2004, when not a single retailer was collecting electronics equipment, the Product Stewardship Institute (PSI) teamed with Staples and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to start the first computer take-back program in the country. Five years later, motivated by state extended producer responsibility (EPR) laws, Best Buy took Staples' computer-only program a big step further to collect both computers and TVs, becoming one of the most convenient locations for consumers to return their used electronic equipment nationwide.

But times have changed. Costs increased, electronics recycling programs became more robust,

and vast quantities of higher cost e-scrap are now being collected - changes that have revealed a lack of commitment from most electronics manufacturers to assume responsibility for collecting and recycling used electronics.

To learn more about Product Stewardship Institute's electronics work or to read the entire article visit: <https://productstewardshipinstitute.wordpress.com/2016/02/04/best-buy-bids-farewell-to-free-tv-and-computer-recycling-further-sign-of-trouble-for-u-s-e-scrap-recovery/>

## Events Calendar

### Pennsylvania Recycling Markets Center Monthly Webinars

February: Health & Safety Issues with Electronic Scrap

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1723065931093543681>

March: Ceiling Tile Recycling

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8439344748435979266>

April: Agricultural Plastics Recycling

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/71697322709267201>

May: Recycled Material Commodity Markets Update

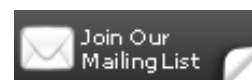
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3642336045147248642>

June: Trends in the Recycling and Waste Handling Equipment Industry

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/887563537824631809>



WasteCap Nebraska  
402-436-2384  
[www.WasteCapNE.org](http://www.WasteCapNE.org)



Copyright © 2014. All Rights Reserved.