

Small Dog to take computer junk

South Burlington

SOUTH BURLINGTON — Residents can recycle old or broken electronics equipment from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the Small Dog Electronics store on Dorset Street.

The company collected more than 50 tons of computers, boom boxes and other devices at a similar event in honor of Earth Day in 2007.

Among the items that will be accepted at no charge are computers, printers, monitors, fax machines, modems, scanners, telephones, cell phones, boom boxes, VCRs, stereos, TVs, typewriters, and CD, DVD and cassette tape players.

Company co-owner Don Mayer said his goal is to annually recycle more electronics than the company sells.

“We have to find the best way to recycle what we sell and educate our customers about it. Although manufacturing processes are improving, computers, monitors and other equipment have some hazardous contents like cadmium, mercury and chromium that can leach into the soil and contaminate groundwater,” he said.

Waste collected will be processed in the U.S., the company said. While a small percentage can be salvaged, in most cases e-waste is broken down so elements such as tin, copper, silicon and beryllium can be reused in other electronics. Plastic, steel and glass can also be recycled. Certain waste goes to manufacturer take-back programs.

Other partners in Saturday's event are Seventh

Generation, Ben & Jerry's, Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, Chittenden Bank, Chittenden Solid Waste District and Good Point recycling of Middlebury.

People planning to bring a large volume of electronics are asked to call ahead. For more information, go to www.smalldog.com/ewaste.

