Due to recent legislation in Oregon, effective January 1, 2010 the landfill currently receiving the University of Idaho’s municipal solid waste will no longer accept Electronic Waste (E-Waste). This means that no E-Waste may be put in interior waste cans, exterior trash cans or dumpsters. For simplicity sake, if a unit has a plug, battery, or microchip, it will be considered E-Waste.

Effective January 1, 2010, all E-Waste should be considered Surplus and procedures for disposing of E-Waste should follow the standard Campus Surplus guidelines. Departments do not have the option of disposing of E-Waste in any other manner. E-Waste material will be sent to a vendor who will recycle and certify that all E-Waste generated from the University of Idaho’s main campus is handled in the most environmentally-friendly manner and according to all Local/State/Federal guidelines. UI sites outside of Moscow should contact Campus Surplus for assistance in proper disposal guidelines for their particular area.) All vendors used for disposal will be required to adhere to the Basel Action Network guidelines for keeping E-Waste from being transferred to other countries.

This regulatory change will increase the cost of processing E-waste, and thereby increase the total cost of ownership of electronic devices for the university community. To address this additional cost, a fee will be implemented to cover the additional expenses incurred by handling and recycling this waste stream. The Fee Schedule below will be analyzed and updated periodically and fees will be adjusted accordingly to cover the additional cost of this service.

In the future, we plan on having an “up-front” fee automatically charged for every electronic item purchased at UI. The proposed implementation target for this fee is fiscal year 2011 if system modifications can be accomplished in the current Banner finance module. In the short term, a fee will be assessed for all E-Waste disposals based on size and weight. These fees will cover all expenses associated with completing required paperwork and handling, wrapping, loading, and shipping the E-Waste to the vendor site. This process will fulfill our obligations for a cradle-to-grave approach for handling E-Waste at the University of Idaho.

Every department is now responsible for the cost of properly disposing of their E-Waste items. As items are brought, shipped, or delivered to the Recycling/Surplus/Solid Waste (RSSW) center, the budget number listed on the Surplus Property Transfer form will be used for these fees, unless a different number is authorized by the departmental property manager. Thank you for your cooperation in helping to meet these new requirements for dealing with UI’s E-Waste stream.