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**NEWS ARTICLE: Gainesville Times on April 15, 2011**

## **Nonprofit hosts recycling event**

Computer hard drives will be shredded to keep sensitive info safe

### **Great American Cleanup**

To recycle: An electronics and document recycling station will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Oakwood City Hall, 4035 Walnut Circle.

To volunteer: Roadside and stream cleanup volunteers will meet at the Oakwood city park at the corner of Allen and Railroad streets. That event will take place from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

Archaic electronics will go to good use today at a community recycling event.

Keep Hall Beautiful is hosting the Great American Cleanup today at the Oakwood City Hall, where volunteers will be on hand to take old computers, televisions, printers and similar items.

"The people really don't even have to get out of their cars with the electronic recycling," said Keep Hall Beautiful's Executive Director Cindy Reed.

"They pull up. We unload the car for them. And they go. It's a pretty quick process."

Reed said hard drives from the computers will be shredded to keep sensitive information safe.

A shredding company will also be available to destroy documents.

Keep Hall Beautiful is a local nonprofit affiliated with Keep America Beautiful. The Great American Cleanup is a national event which will mobilize an estimated 3 million people today in community improvement efforts. Keep Hall Beautiful holds electronic recycling days twice a year.

The recycling services at Oakwood City Hall are free with the exception of television recycling, which comes with a \$10 fee because the screens contain lead and are difficult to remove. Atlanta-based Creative Recycling will dispose of the dropoffs, recycling 98 percent of the items.

"Whether its shredded or chipped or melted down just depends on what the component is," Reed said.

The recycling event also coincides with a stream and roadside cleanup effort. Reed expects more than 75 volunteers to be on hand for the event, which will start at Balus Creek and then continue on to about 25 roads.

"If people don't see litter already they're less likely to litter," Reed said. "You don't want to litter in the streams because it just keeps running there and running into the lake. We want to get that off the side of the roads for beautifications reasons but also for health reasons."