

WEEE Young Scientists

This year's young scientist exhibition saw participants from all over Ireland compete for the much acclaimed Young Scientist of the year 2010 award. A large section of this year's exhibition included an eco zone, which provided an outlet to inform and educate students on the importance of environmental issues. Representatives in this section included the EPA, ENFO, WEEE Ireland, Eco UNESCO and Bird Watch Ireland to name a few. WEEE Ireland is the Irish compliance scheme for electrical and battery recycling, responsible for the collection and treatment of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and waste batteries from collection points across Ireland.

WEEE Ireland is currently running a pilot transition year battery recycling project, which involves students actively participating in battery recycling in their school and their local community. This initiative has been launched following the success of WEEE Ireland's primary school electrical recycling program, which saw participating schools generate over 100 tonnes of WEEE last year alone.

Waste batteries can contain chemicals and heavy metals which can cause harm to human health and the environment at end of life if not managed responsibly. Recycling batteries can recover some of the metals found in batteries for use again in battery manufacturing, thus conserving our natural resources. Using rechargeable batteries will reduce the amount of waste produced in Ireland, and will also save you money in the long run. All types of batteries can be recycled for free by bringing them to retailers supplying similar types, local recycling centres or WEEE Ireland special collection events. Details on these can be found on www.recyclefree.ie.

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For further information please contact:

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About WEEE Ireland

A not for profit organisation and approved by the Minister of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, WEEE Ireland provides a cost effective solution for producers of household EEE and batteries in compliance with Irish regulations on the recycling of electronic waste. WEEE Ireland organises for the treatment and recycling of waste electrical and electronic equipment and batteries and accumulators from authorised collection points around the country. The corporate website, www.weeeireland.ie, is utilised by producers and distributors looking for practical guidance on how to understand and comply with the WEEE and Battery Regulations. The consumer focused website www.recyclefree.ie can tell members of the public how and where they can recycle their old appliances.

