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NEWS RELEASE

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Recycle center to discontinue accepting glass and electronics

Beginning November 20, 2009, the Branson Recycle Center will no longer accept glass.

"Our glass crushers are due for replacement and we had to make a decision whether or not to stay with glass recycling or focus our funds and manpower on other recycling opportunities," said Branson Public Works Director Larry VanGilder.

The recycle center will continue to accept fluorescent light bulbs because they are processed separately through a hazardous waste facility.

Glass has been traditionally difficult for recycle personnel to handle, with the possibility of cuts or injury. Because glass is heavy, transportation to a processing facility is expensive and most local recycling companies no longer accept glass. Many of the cities in southwest Missouri have already discontinued accepting glass in their recycle centers.

Branson Environmental Specialist Mona Menezes said that if a cost effective alternative can be found in the future to recycle glass, the city will reinstate the program.

In addition, also starting November 20, the recycle center will discontinue taking electronics, again due to changing economic conditions. However, Branson's Best Buy does accept household electronics for recycling, and the electronics for recycling need not have been purchased at Best Buy. For more information, go to www.bestbuy.com/ and scroll down to the recycling section. A \$10 fee applies to TVs and computer monitors; however, Best Buy provides a gift card in the amount of the fee. All other e-waste electronics like computers, keyboards, cell phones, towers, etc. are taken at no charge.