

City of Alexandria Celebrates America Recycles Day, November 15 *Recycle Mercury Devices, Paper Shredding & Learn about Composting*

For Immediate Release: November 8, 2011

For More Information:

- www.alexandriava.gov/recycling

The City of Alexandria's Department of Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES) and Covanta Energy, the owner and operator of the Alexandria/Arlington Resource Recovery Facility, are partnering to recognize America Recycles Day, Tuesday November 15.

What: America Recycles Day

When: Tuesday, November 15

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Where: Market Square, 301 King Street

At this free event, residents and local businesses are invited to learn more about the City's recycling programs recycling mercury, shredding documents, and composting.

- ***Mercury Recycling:***

Covanta Energy will distribute \$5 gift cards to all City residents and businesses that turn in mercury containing devices of any type; such as thermostats, thermometers, sphygmomanometers, manometers, barometers and hygrometers, as well as liquid mercury. Residents must provide photo identification in order to verify their address to participate in this program.

This special collection event encourages proper recycling and prevention of these potentially hazardous mercury items from entering the waste stream. These devices should always be properly recycled, and if simply thrown into household trash or the waste stream, these devices can break and release mercury into the environment.

- ***Paper Shredding:***

Shred Station Express will offer FREE document destruction services to all Alexandria residents and small businesses for up to 5 file boxes of documents.

- ***Composting 101:***

A "Backyard Composting Workshop" will take place every half hour; learn about simple backyard composting options to minimize yard waste set out for collection.

For more information about America Recycles Day in Alexandria visit www.alexandriava.gov/recycling or call the Solid Waste Division at 703.746.4410.