

## MIDDLETOWN

## Earth Day party offers to recycle cell phones

*Old cell phones should be saved for recycling or reuse, environmental officials said.*

By **CHRIS ENGLISH COURIER TIMES**

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If you're planning a cell phone upgrade, don't send your old one to the landfill. Bring it to the Middletown Earth Day celebration, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at Core Creek Park, near Pavilion No. 2. A company called CollectiveGood will be collecting old cell phones for recycling or reuse. It's important to not just throw them away, said Steve Donahue, vice chairman of the township's Environmental Advisory Council.

"There are metals in there that are bad for the environment," he said.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, cell phones can contain lead, mercury, cadmium, arsenic or other elements that can cause environmental contamination by leaching into soil and groundwater.

In addition to the environmental benefits, the township will get \$1 for each cell phone collected for use on park and recreation programs.

Other highlights of the Earth Day celebration include live music, a bike ride led by township police, ecological and environmental demonstrations and displays from the Churchville Nature Center and animals on display from the Aark Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center. There are also games, food and drink, and each family attending will receive a free tree sapling.

The event is sponsored by Brian's Harley-Davidson and Commerce Bank.

If you're unable to attend the event, the township is collecting used cell phones at the municipal center, 3 Municipal Way, just off North Flowers Mill Road adjacent to the Shoppes at Flowers Mill shopping center.

For more information on cell phone recycling or the Earth Day celebration, call the township parks and recreation department at 215-750-3890.