

Kristen Lawton is the Director of Recycling and Reduction for the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency (OCRRA).

Lawton began her career with OCRRA in 2005 as a recycling specialist, helping local businesses and residents with their recycling needs.

In 2008 she was promoted to public information officer, serving as the spokesperson to share OCRRA's philosophy, goals and programs with the local community.

In 2021, Lawton was promoted to her current role, overseeing the community's award-winning recycling program. She manages a team of recycling professionals in a variety of environmental efforts, including recycling education, compost site operations and household hazardous waste collection.

Lawton also serves on the board of the New York Product Stewardship Council. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from Smith College and a Master's degree in Print Media from Rochester Institute of Technology.

Personal Achievements:

- In 2015, Lawton was recognized as a Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) Unsung Hero.
- In 2013, she received the Waste and Recycling News Rosie Award.
- In 2008, she earned Greening USA's Community Advocacy Award for her organizational efforts on OCRRA's Earth Day Litter Cleanup event and quarterly newsletter.

Program Achievements:

- In 2016, OCRRA's interactive School Education Video Series received SWANA's Gold Excellence Award for top education program.
- In 2015, the Interactive Media Council bestowed the Outstanding Achievement Award on OCRRA for the same school education series.
- In 2011, OCRRA's Marketing Program received SWANA's Silver Marketing Excellence Award.