



Winter 2016 Newsletter | Volume 25 | No. 4

Reduce and Reuse While You and Your Family Are Rejoicing this Holiday Season

Theresa Evans, Recycling Specialist, OCRRA

Holiday gifts arrive in all shapes and forms and when it comes to the environment, it might just be what is on the outside that counts. Between the wrapping paper, packaging and cards, our household waste starts to pile up fast during the most wonderful time of the year.

Use the following tips to keep your trash in check, and enjoy a happy, earth-friendly holiday season.

- **Reuse.** Gift bags, ribbon, bows and wrapping paper in good condition can be saved and used again. Holiday cards can be cut up and made into gift tags. Torn wrapping paper can be saved and applied as packing filler (instead of tissue paper or packing peanuts). Packing peanuts may be accepted at certain shipping companies (including UPS Stores), contact them to inquire before dropping them off.

Consider giving vintage clothing, used books, or second-hand sporting equipment as gifts that come at no added expense to the environment, and/or give the gift of local experiences such as tickets to nearby museums, theatres, restaurants, concerts or parks.

- **Recycle.** Our community boasts an impressive recycling rate – 60% of our waste is recycled. To maintain and even improve this rate, it is important to let out of town guests know what can

and cannot be recycled in Onondaga County. Paper cards and envelopes, gift boxes, gift bags, catalogs, clean aluminum foil, wrapping paper (except tissue paper or any metallic / foil wrapping paper), can all be recycled in the blue bin.

And, remember those batteries that may or may not be included. Old batteries can be recycled via the OCRRA Battery Bin located in all Wegmans stores in Onondaga County.

- **Donate.** If you received a gift that will replace an existing item in your household, donate the old item to a friend or charity. This includes electronic devices like video game consoles, computers and mobile devices. If donating is not an option, visit OCRRA's Electronics Recycling page to learn how to properly manage these items at the end of their life. www.tinyurl.com/ewaste-options-2016
- **Compost.** If you get a real Christmas tree, be sure to recycle it through your municipality or bring it to one of OCRRA's Compost Sites for quick and easy disposal once there are more needles on the floor than on the tree. (See page 8 for details).
- **Trash it.** These holiday items must go in the trash: metallic or foil con-



Photo Credit: Theresa Evans, Recycling Specialist, OCRRA.

Calvin Hirt of Baldwinsville shows off his holiday recycling prowess by putting all the right things in the blue bin (well, except himself). Non-metallic wrapping paper, cards, envelopes and gift bags are all recyclable. Let your holiday guests know too.

taining wrapping paper, metallic greeting cards, metallic gift bags or envelopes, tissue paper and Styrofoam.

If you have questions about what can and cannot be recycled at the holidays, or anytime, in Onondaga County, visit OCRRA.org and check out the "How do I get rid of..." search function at the top of the page.

Theresa Evans can be reached at tevans@ocrra.org.



PLASTIC BAGS:

Cannot go in the blue bin – recycle them at big box stores or supermarkets.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PG 2

OCRRA welcomes new director to the agency.



CONTAINER RECYCLING..... PG 3

Rhoda explains the ins and outs of plastics, caps and rinsing.



CAFETERIA COMPOSTING..... PG 5

Grimshaw Elementary School in LaFayette steps up to the plate.



LED Lights..... PG 6

Reduce your electricity use this holiday season.



HOUSEHOLD TOXICS PG 8

Give a gift to the Earth, make an appointment to dispose of your household toxics today.

OCRRA Welcomes New Executive Director to Helm

Glance former commissioner at the International Joint Commission to lead OCRRA

Kristen Lawton, Public Information Officer, OCRRA

“We are thrilled to have Dereth Glance lead Team OCRRA,” said Mike Reilly, CPA and OCRRA board chair. “Dereth brings leadership and historical knowledge of our agency, along with a profound commitment to our environment. She embodies the values, principles and practices at the heart of OCRRA’s mission, which is to provide our community with a comprehensive solid waste management system that is environmentally, socially and financially sound.”

Glance guided regional and international organizations at program, leadership, board and executive

levels. She brings extensive knowledge of OCRRA to the position, having served on its board of directors for six years (2004-2010), including several years as the vice chair and recycling committee chair.

Most recently, Glance served as a U.S. Commissioner at the International Joint Commission charged with preventing and resolving disputes and promoting cooperation for the shared waters of the United States and Canada. Prior to that, Glance served as the Executive Program Director of the Citizens Campaign for the Environment, directing water, energy and waste reduction programs for five

regional offices in New York and Connecticut. During her tenure there, she also served on New York State’s Great Lakes Basin Advisory Council, the Clean Water Network and the Onondaga Lake Partnership Outreach Committee.

“My travels across North America confirmed that the passion and commitment to clean air and water, recycling and sustainable solid waste management in the Onondaga County community is truly something special. It is an honor to work side-by-side with the dedicated volunteer board of directors and OCRRA’s talented staff to meet the challenges ahead to continue to deliv-

er award winning sustainable solid waste management to our community,” said Glance. “OCRRA is funded by its own operations and not reliant on tax dollars. The bulk of OCRRA revenues are based on electricity markets, which are anything but robust these days. Closing the gap created by depressed electricity and metal markets can be forged by building even stronger public and private partnerships to ensure the essential services that OCRRA provides to our community, including recycling, composting, disposal, waste reduction and education continues. I look forward to working



Photo credit: Klineberg Photography, Syracuse.

Dereth Glance, OCRRA Executive Director

with everyone in the community from individuals to businesses, schools and local governments so we can all do our part to save the world a little each day.”

Kristen Lawton can be reached at klawton@ocrra.org.

OCRRA Trash & Recycling Drop-Off Locations



Photo credit: Klineberg Photography, Syracuse.

OCRRA employee Kevin Persaud welcomes a resident to the Rock Cut Road Drop-Off Site. The site accepts trash and recycling from residents and small businesses, Tuesday – Saturday, 7:00 am – 2:30 pm.

ROCK CUT ROAD

Accepts residential and small-business trash and recycling.
5808 Rock Cut Road Jamesville
Hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 7:00 am to 2:30 pm*

LEY CREEK

Accepts construction and demolition debris as well as trash and recycling.
5158 Ley Creek Drive Liverpool
Hours: 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month, 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.*

***Holiday Closings:**

New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

Give your textiles new life year-round

Donate old clothing, shoes, linens and accessories to a local charity. Even items that are ripped or stained (must be clean and dry) can be reused or recycled.

Visit www.nytextiles.org for a list of acceptable items and then check out www.tinyurl.com/cny-textiles for a list of nearby locations to donate.



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OCRRA

100 Elwood Davis Road,
North Syracuse, NY 13212-4312

KRISTEN LAWTON
Public Information Officer

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OCRRA’s waste reduction, reuse and recycling program efforts (including this newsletter) are partially financed by a grant from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

FACT: When bringing materials to our trash drop off sites, you must tarp your trailer or pickup truck to prevent litter.

OCRRA Compost Sites Start Year-Round Operations

Now residents can drop off food and yard waste all year and pick up compost for spring planting

Greg Gelewski, Operations Manager, OCRRA

New in 2017, both the Amboy and Jamesville Compost Site will be open year-round for drop off of food scraps and yard waste, as well as for pick up of compost and mulch. So, for those times when a storm necessitates yard waste disposal or good weather comes early and you want to get a jump on your spring plantings, OCRRA is here to serve your needs.

As part of this transition, OCRRA Compost Site passes will now be available for purchase starting January 1 and they will last through December 31, not just through the warmer months. There will still be three different pass options available:

- **Basic Pass - \$20.** This pass allows unlimited drop off of yard and food waste only. It excludes removal of compost and mulch.

- **Plus Pass - \$35.** This pass allows unlimited drop off of yard and food waste AND **self-loading / removal** of up to 3 cu. yds. of compost or 6 cu. yds. of mulch.

- **Premium Pass - \$50.** This pass allows unlimited drop off of yard and food waste AND **OCRRA loads** your truck or trailer with up to 3 cu. yds. of compost or 6 cu. yds. of mulch.

Don't need to drop yard waste or food scraps off? Residents can also purchase Pride of NY mulch and US Composting Council Certified compost by the truck or trailer load at either site. OCRRA will load this material for you. Visit www.OCRRA.org for bulk pricing details.

Greg Gelewski can be reached at ggelewski@ocrra.org.



Photo credit: Klineberg Photography, Syracuse.

A resident looks on while an OCRRA employee loads his trailer with high-quality compost at the Jamesville Compost Site. Now that the Amboy and Jamesville Sites operate year-round, residents may drop off or pick up materials at either site, January through December 2017.

AMBOY COMPOST SITE

6296 Airport Road, Camillus

JAMESVILLE COMPOST SITE

4370 Route 91, Jamesville

Hours at both sites*:

December 1 – March 31: Monday through Friday, 7:30 am – 4:00 pm.

April 1 – November 30: Monday through Saturday, 7:30 am – 4:00 pm.

*Holiday Closings: New Year's Day, Memorial Day Weekend, Independence Weekend, Labor Day Weekend, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day.



Recycling Rhoda

ABCs of Bottle & Container Recycling

Talks Trash – and Recycling!

Dear Rhoda,

I don't get it. Can you recycle bottle tops or not? I hear something different every other day. And how clean and dry do my containers need to be? I'm not gonna put them in the dishwasher ya know, that seems like overkill. Not to mention a waste of water. Please make recycling easier for me.

Seeking Clarity in Clay

Dear Seeking Clarity,

Sometimes recycling isn't as cut and dry as one might

like it to be (pun intended). Let's start with plastic bottles and their caps. Plastic bottle caps should be left on the plastic bottles (after they have been emptied and rinsed).

You do not need to squash or stomp on these bottles before putting them and their caps in the blue bin.

Metal caps / lids, whether on glass bottles or jars should go in the trash, not your blue bin.

Lids on plastic wide-

mouth containers must also go in the trash.

So, how clean and dry do those containers have to be? Well, first off, put away your dish washing tabs, Mr. Clean. You don't need to scrub them down and disinfect them for crying out loud!

Just give your containers a quick rinse. Put in a smidge of water, screw the cap on, shake things around a bit, then empty and let them drain for a minute. Finally,

pop them in your recycling bin.

So, nothing is soaking wet, but you aren't doing a precision towel dry job like you're detailing a vehicle at Delta Sonic. Just make sure they are dry enough to prevent making a mess when you toss them in the blue bin. Easy peasy.

Now go on, go find some recycling to do, because every little bit of recycling makes a difference! Not to mention your efforts

help Onondaga County continue to be a leader in recycling.

Did ya' know – our community recycles 60% of the waste we generate? According to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, we have the best per capita recycling rate in our entire state!

Sincerely,

Recycling
Rhoda

FACT: #1 plastic clam shells go in the trash. Only #1 and #2 plastics that are bottle or jug shaped can go in the blue bin.

Mercury Collection Event Protects Environment

Ann Fordock, Recycling Specialist, OCRRA

More than 240 residents attended the August mercury thermometer and thermostat collection event sponsored by OCRRA, Covanta and the Thermostat Recycling Corporation. 394 thermometers and 289 thermostats were collected, which amounts to 1,550 grams of mercury being removed from our environment. That is the equivalent amount of mercury found in more than 310,000 compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs).

Of note, the Thermostat Recycling Corporation purchased 500 lbs. of carbon off-sets for every mercury thermostat returned. This covered the environmental costs of driving a car to the event.

Residents do not need to wait for a special event to drop off their thermostat or thermometer. The Rock Cut Road Drop Off Site accepts these items Tuesday – Saturday from 7:00 am to 2:30 pm. A \$5 Lowe's gift card*, courtesy of Covanta, will be mailed to you as a reward.

Other mercury containing items can be brought to OCRRA's year-round Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off. Visit www.OCRRA.org to make an appointment to bring in your mercury and other household toxics.

** One gift card per resident regardless of the number of mercury items dropped off.*

Ann Fordock can be reached at afordock@ocrra.org.



Photo credit: Klineberg Photography, Syracuse.

Kathleen and Richard Pagano of Clay drop off their mercury thermometers at the August event, which helped keep 1,550 grams of mercury out of our environment. That is the equivalent amount of mercury found in more than 310,000 compact fluorescent bulbs.

OCRRA Spotlight Bill Bulsiewicz

Title: OCRRA Attorney

Start Date: October 1991

Fun Fact: Bill is an avid hunter and fisherman.

What makes OCRRA great?:

“I think what makes OCRRA great is the commitment of our employees.”



Photo Credit: Tony Mangano, Camillus.

OCRRA Attorney Bill Bulsiewicz shows off a 10 lb. northern pike he caught while fishing with former OCRRA board member Tony Mangano at Lac Wetetnagami in Northern Quebec in September. This is the second biggest northern pike Bill caught. He caught the largest while fishing at the same lake in 2006; that fish weighed over 12 lbs.

Home and Garden Show 17

WHEN: March 16-19, 2017

WHERE: New York State Fairgrounds & Expo Center

WHY: Come see OCRRA and hundreds of other vendors* that are at the ready to help you with home remodels, decorating and landscape needs.



Photo credit: Klineberg Photography, Syracuse.

Stop by and see OCRRA March 16-19 at the Home and Garden Show at the NYS Fairgrounds (booth #2377) in the Center of Progress Building. Learn about our Pride of NY compost and mulch or get a blue bin (while supplies last).

*Interested in exhibiting your business services in front of 20,000+ consumers at the show? View the floorplan and book your space now!
Visit HBRCNY.com or call the Home Builders and Remodelers of CNY at 315-463-6261.

FACT: Bring your mercury thermometers and thermostats to the Rock Cut Road Drop Off Site and receive a \$5 gift card to Lowe's.

OCRRA and Its Staff Honored with More Local Awards

The Agency as well as two recycling department members have been recognized for their 2016 efforts

Kristen Lawton, Public Information Officer, OCRRA

OCRRA received the Sustainable Upstate Network (SUN), Municipality of the Year Award at the newly renovated Marriott Syracuse Downtown in October. SUN is a group of businesses, vendors and organizations with a focus towards sustainable / green building solutions. SUN recognizes local companies for their sustainability efforts and selected OCRRA as a community leader in this area.

OCRRA's dedicated employees help make Onondaga County's recycling programs successful.

Recycling Specialist Ann Fordock was selected in November as a 40 Under Forty honoree by the Central New York Business Journal. 40 Under Forty recognizes 40 hard-work-

ing, civic-minded individuals who are under the age of 40 who go above and beyond at their workplace and in our community. Fordock was honored for her volunteerism, community involvement and public service; for the past eight years she has worked diligently at OCRRA to promote waste reduction and improve recycling. Fordock educates apartment complexes on recycling best practices, spearheads the annual Earth Day Litter Clean Up where over 7,000 residents turn out to pick up trash each year, and organizes OCRRA's Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off program, which removes thousands of pounds of household toxics from our environment each year. In addition to those efforts,

Fordock volunteers for the DeWitt Rotary, Clear Path for Veterans and serves as the co-chair of 40 Below's Civic Engagement Task Force.

Recycling Specialist Theresa Evans was recognized with SUNY-ESF's 2016 Graduate of Distinction Award in the Incipiens Quercu (Beginning Oak) category. This award honors an alum whose accomplishments are considered pioneering and have positively affected society or inspired the community. Evans works with over 100 local schools and institutions of higher education to achieve outstanding levels of recycling and waste reduction each year. She has inspired 16 schools and over 7,000 students to separate thousands



Photo credit: Klineberg Photography, Syracuse.

OCRRA employees, Theresa Evans, Cheri Zajac, Ann Fordock and Executive Director Dereth Glance accept the Sustainable Upstate Network Municipality of the Year Award at the Marriott Syracuse Downtown in October.

of pounds of food scraps on a weekly basis. In addition, Evans played a key role in launching an award-winning, internet-based video series on solid waste management for third through fifth graders; the first of its kind aligned with New York State curriculum requirements.

To learn more about OCRRA's programs and how you can become part of them, visit www.OCRRA.org.

Kristen Lawton can be reached at klawton@ocrra.org.



Putting Leftover Food Scraps to Good Use

Theresa Evans, Recycling Specialist, OCRRA

Students at Grimshaw Elementary School have started turning trash into treasure by separating out their leftover cafeteria food scraps and recovering them for composting at OCRRA's Amboy Compost Facility. Grimshaw Elementary's new compost efforts make the LaFayette School District Onondaga County's fifth to participate in OCRRA's school compost initiative, now joining the impressive leadership ranks of the Marcellus, Jordan-Elbridge, Fayetteville-Manlius, and Westhill school districts.

Each day, all participating students, whether they purchase their lunches at school, or bring them in from home, help separate their food scraps for composting by scraping leftovers into the proper receptacle. All food waste is then brought from the school to

OCRRA's Amboy Compost Facility in Camillus, where it is turned into a nutrient-rich soil amendment that can be used to grow healthy plants in our community. Engaging in cafeteria food scrap separation not only makes a productive use of what was previously a waste item, but it also provides hands-on environmental education to students on a daily basis, and the schools enjoy a large-scale reduction in their trash as a result.

For example, at Enders Road Elementary School in Manlius, the introduction of food scrap separation reduced the cafeteria garbage from 10 full trash bags to 2 trash bags per day. That is an 80% reduction of cafeteria trash every day.

The LaFayette School District is now in the company of community leaders such as Syracuse Universi-

ty, Wegmans, Pastabilities, Byrne Dairy and Crouse Hospital, among others.

Together, these institutions contribute to the processing of over 50,000 pounds of food scraps a week at OCRRA's Amboy Compost Facility, which will ultimately generate 30,000 cubic yards of high-quality compost this year. If you are interested in getting your school involved in this innovative program, contact Theresa Evans to learn how it works, and take advantage of free training and educational supplies. Check out this short video to learn more about the benefits of food scrap composting and the process OCRRA uses to turn food waste into wonderful: www.tinyurl.com/OCRRAfoodscraps

Theresa Evans can be reached at tevans@ocrra.org.



Photo credit: Klineberg Photography, Syracuse.

Students at Grimshaw Elementary School in LaFayette separate their cafeteria lunch scraps, recyclables and trash into separate containers. The food scraps are brought to OCRRA's Amboy Compost Facility where they are turned into nutrient-rich compost that helps grow healthy plants. Step up to the plate and join the schools and businesses in Onondaga County that are turning their trash into treasure; contact OCRRA to get started today at 453-2866.

Energy Efficient Holiday Lighting

Amy Miller, Environmental Engineer, OCRRA

'Tis the season to decorate with strings of festive lights and here are a couple of energy saving tips:

- 1) Use a timer to automatically turn lights on and off so you don't have to remember.
- 2) Replace traditional incandescent light strings with LEDs.
 - LEDs use 80% less energy – saving money and the environment.
 - LEDs have a longer life, 50,000+ hours vs. 3,000 hours for incandescent.
 - LEDs are cool to touch – reducing the risk of fire and making them safer for children and pets.
 - LED “warm” white bulbs can provide a traditional incandescent look.

This year I'm heading to the store to purchase a timer and some new LED light strings to help reduce my energy use. 'Tis just another way to save the world a little each day. Warm, LED-lit holiday wishes to you.

Amy Miller can be reached at amiller@ocrra.org.

WTE Facility Can Light 300,000 Trees With LEDs



The Onondaga County Waste-to-Energy Facility generates enough electricity to power nearly 300,000 Christmas trees with LED lighting versus about 50,000 with traditional incandescent light strings. The Facility can power 6 times more LED lit trees than incandescent lit trees.



WTE Facility Can Light 50,000 Trees With Incandescents



earthday 2017 april 21 & 22, 2017

Litter Cleanup Registration Form



Name of Group: _____

Number of Workers: _____

Name of Contact Person (one name only): _____

Address of Contact (where information/stickers are to be sent):

Street: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone #: (W) _____ (H) _____ (Fax) _____

E-Mail: _____

Day(s) Your Group Will Be Cleaning:

Friday, April 21 Saturday, April 22 Both

You will receive two trash bag stickers per worker. Please indicate if you will need more.

Number of ADDITIONAL Stickers _____

Remember, NO chemical waste, paint cans, furniture, appliances, yard waste or gas tanks are acceptable. **OCRRA encourages groups to recycle any bottles and cans they find.**

Municipality (city/town/village) where you are cleaning. This info is used to provide instructions on litter drop off.

What area are you cleaning? (You may choose any public space in the county. Be as specific as possible to avoid cleanup overlap):

Cleanup supplies are your group's responsibility. OCRRA provides the stickers for free disposal through the municipality. **Any questions, please call OCRRA at 453-2866, ext. 202.**

Register Online at
OCRRA.org

OR RETURN REGISTRATION
VIA FAX 453-2872
OR MAIL TO: OCRRA
100 Elwood Davis Road
North Syracuse, NY 13212



From the Executive Director's Desk...

Good Air and Water Quality Depends Upon Your Smart Solid Waste Practices

DERETH GLANCE, Executive Director, OCRRA

When the kids went back to school after Labor Day, I returned to OCRRA to serve as the Executive Director. I am thrilled to be working with the all-star OCRRA team and for a community that takes sustainable solid waste management so seriously. OCRRA provides a complete and ever-improving system that serves and supports the CNY community.

It has been five years since I served on OCRRA's board of directors. The

agency has made great progress since then; it now boasts New York State's flagship food waste composting program, along with award-winning recycling programs and optimized air quality emissions at the Waste-to-Energy Facility. OCRRA's special events draw thousands of people and each day folks drop off recyclables, trash, and construction and demolition debris at our Ley Creek and Rock Cut Road Drop-Off Sites as

well as yard and food waste at our Amboy and Jamesville Compost Sites.

Every day, it is about the people we serve and the water, land and air resources that the OCRRA system protects by delivering environmentally and fiscally responsible solid waste management.

Recently, all the solid waste entities in our region met to share our programs, challenges and opportunities. It was great to meet my counterparts and

collaborate on solutions to meet our solid waste challenges. Some of those challenges include: depressed recycling markets; limits on how blue bin glass can be recycled; managing tires, plastic film, unwanted paint and electronic waste. Reducing the litter that clutters our streets and is now impacting lakes, rivers and oceans is another problem that we all must consider.

Smart, sustainable solid waste management is the last line of defense

before the garbage we generate further degrades our land, air and water. I am so proud to call a place that reduces what it can, has one of the highest per-capita recycling rates, and recovers the remainder of its waste as energy, my home. I look forward to continuously improving OCRRA's system by listening, learning, collaborating and embracing innovations.

Dereth Glance can be reached at dglance@ocrra.org.

OCRRA Announces New Board Member Appointments

OCRRA is excited to announce the appointment of three new members to its board of directors. Joining the OCRRA board are Jessi Lyons, Jeanne Powers and Ashley Wilson.



Jessi Lyons

Jessi Lyons is a farm coordinator at the Brady Faith Farm and founding member of Syracuse Grows. Lyons received her Master's degree in landscape architecture from SUNY-ESF and her Bachelor of Science degree in environmental studies from Southern Oregon State University.



Jeanne Powers

Jeanne Powers is an environmental engineer in Onondaga County's Water Environment Protection Department, overseeing water quality and engineering. Powers received her Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from Clarkson University.



Ashley Wilson

Ashley Wilson is the executive director of the Onondaga County Democratic Committee. Wilson received her Master of Public Administration degree from Cornell University and her Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and history from Syracuse University.

Fall Confidential Document Shredding Event a Home Run

Thanks to the collaborative efforts of Confidata, Shred Solvers, OCRRA, NBT Stadium Facilities, the Syracuse Police Department and Onondaga County's fabulous recycling-minded community, 76,960 pounds of old tax forms, medical records and other confidential papers were safely shredded and recycled into new paper products in September.

OCRRA'S Shred-o-Rama event at NBT Bank Stadium provided safe shredding services to 2,196 residents and recycled enough paper to save 461 trees. In addition to helping combat identity theft in an environmentally sound way, this event also raised \$4,000 and 1,200 pounds of food donations, which enabled the Food Bank of Central New York to feed

11,730 nutritious meals to hungry families in our community.

OCRRA offers two Shred-o-Rama events each year. To get details about the next event, subscribe to OCRRA's email list at www.OCRRA.org or "like" our Facebook page.



Staffer Dwayne West empties confidential documents into a Toter in preparation for shredding at the September Shred-o-Rama event. Sign up for emails from OCRRA at OCRRA.org to find out when the first 2017 shredding event will take place.

Photo credit: Klineberg Photography, Syracuse.



QUESTION OF THE QUARTER

Follow OCRRA on Facebook and ask us all your recycling and disposal questions!

Q: We're getting new telephones. We have some old corded phones as well as a couple of newer cordless phones to get rid of. Are they considered electronics?

A: These items are not considered electronics per NYS Law, so they can go in the trash, but Bruin Computer Trading in Liverpool will take them (and electronics - except TVs, CRT monitors and items containing freon.) Contact them for details at 410-0050.



Recycle Your Christmas Tree

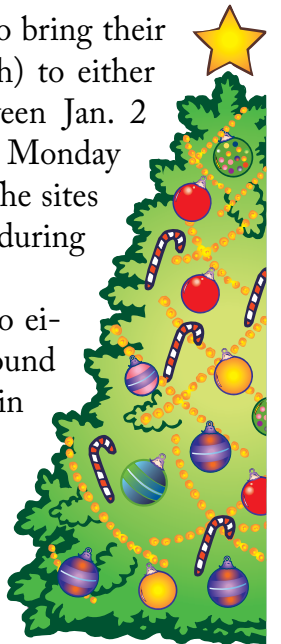
Don't know what to do with your Christmas tree after the holidays? You can recycle it!

Most communities, including the City of Syracuse, provide a curb-side pick-up for trees. They simply ask that you put your tree – no plastic bags, lights, tinsel, stands, or ornaments – at your curb during the scheduled pick up time. Contact your town or village for more info.

Onondaga County residents can also bring their Christmas trees (and leaves and brush) to either of the OCRRA compost sites between Jan. 2 and Jan. 14, 2017. The sites are open Monday through Friday, 7:30 am – 4:00 pm. The sites are closed on Saturdays and Sundays during the winter.

There is no charge to deliver trees to either site. In the spring, the trees are ground into mulch that in turn can be used in gardens and landscaping.

Onondaga County residents can bring their Christmas trees (and leaves and brush) to either of the OCRRA Compost Sites between Jan. 2 and Jan. 14, 2017. The sites are open Monday through Friday, 7:30 am – 4:00 pm.



Green Up Onondaga County

For a better, greener tomorrow...

Plant a Tree!

Annual Tree & Shrub Sale

Bare-Root Stock -
Featuring Non-Invasive and Native Species

Taking Orders Through
March 10

- * Fruit Shrubs
- * Conifers
- * Deciduous Trees & Shrubs
- * Conservation Pacs
- * Bluebird & Bat Houses
- * OCRRA's Premium Compost (40 lb. bags)



Onondaga County Soil & Water Conservation District
Call 315-457-0325 for an order form or visit www.ocswcd.org

Give a Gift to Mother Earth



Photo credit: Klineberg Photography, Syracuse.

This holiday season, think of future generations and give a gift to the environment by making an appointment to properly dispose of your household toxics through OCRRA's free drop off program. Oil-based paints, automotive products, garden supplies, cleaning chemicals, fluorescent light bulbs, mercury thermometers / thermostats and more are accepted, Monday – Friday, 6:30 am – 6:00 pm by appointment. Simply register at www.OCRRA.org and give a gift to future generations.

Mark Your Calendar

ALL OCRRA SITES ARE CLOSED

DECEMBER 26
JANUARY 2

Enjoy the Holidays

HOME & GARDEN SHOW 2017

MARCH 16-19
OCRRA is in the Center of Progress Building



APRIL 21 & 22
Register at OCRRA.org by April 14

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF

Year-Round by Appointment ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTS & SERVICES

6:30 am – 6:00 pm
Register at OCRRA.org.