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Destroy Confidential Documents at May 6 Shredding Event

Residents able to protect their identity and recycle shredded materials for free

SYRACUSE, N.Y., Apr. 24, 2017 – Onondaga County households are invited to collect their confidential documents and bring them to OCRRA's May 6 paper shredding event for secure destruction. The event happens from 8 a.m. to noon, on Saturday, May 6 at <u>NBT Bank Stadium</u> (1 Tex Simone Drive, Syracuse).

<u>Confidata</u>, a division of <u>Empire Recycling</u> <u>Corporation</u>, and <u>Shred Solvers</u> are collaborating with OCRRA to help residents prevent identity theft and ensure that their shredded paper is recycled. Both Confidata and Shred Solvers are local document shredding companies with mobile shredding vehicles.



Confidata employees empty confidential documents from a resident's car prior to shredding the material at the 2016 Shred-o-Rama at NBT Bank Stadium. The 2017 event takes place on May 6.

This event will also include an element of giving back to veterans in our local community struggling with hunger. As they approach the shredding area, attendees are encouraged to make a voluntary donation to Feed our Vets, a nonprofit organization that helps veteran families whose circumstances have left them on the battlefield of hunger. Monetary or non-perishable food donations are welcome. Visit <u>www.feedourvets.org/much-needed-items/</u> for a list preferred items.

"More than 130,000 veterans are homeless and hungry on any given night in America," said Rick Synek, executive director and founder of Feed our Vets. "Food or monetary

donations Shred-o-Rama attendees bring in go direct to stocking our mobile food pantry that feeds veterans in the Syracuse area."

Personal records from a **household** such as medical documents, bank information, tax documents and other items containing account numbers or private details are ideal for drop off. Attendees do not need a reservation and there is no charge, thanks to Confidata and Shred Solvers' generous donation of their time and talent.

Participants should do the following:

- 1. Bring no more than five boxes of documents generated or received at home, per vehicle. *Only materials generated at home will be accepted. Materials from businesses are not accepted at the event.**
- 2. Enter the stadium parking lot from the Grant Boulevard / Hiawatha Boulevard intersection.
- 3. Pack confidential documents, loosely, in durable boxes, containers or <u>paper</u> bags. (Avoid bringing items in plastic bags as they slow down the shredding process.) Remove binders or other non-paper contaminants.
- 4. Stay in their vehicle.

There is no need for participants to exit their vehicles as the event is full service; staff unloads all vehicles. From entrance to exit, wait times average between five and ten minutes.

"Reduce your confidential papers by requesting digital statements whenever possible," said Theresa Evans, OCRRA recycling specialist. "But for those confidential hard copy items still on hand, come to OCRRA's Shred-o-Rama. Once shredded, your documents will be safely and securely recycled into new paper products like napkins, paper towels and toilet paper."

Since OCRRA started hosting shredding events in 2004, more than 1 million pounds of personal papers have been safely shredded and recycled.

<u>Onondaga County Parks</u> and the <u>Syracuse Chief's</u> Management made this year's events convenient by allowing OCRRA the use of the stadium's spacious parking lot.

*Workplaces in need of shredding services should visit <u>www.OCRRA.org</u> or contact a shredding service.

About OCRRA: OCRRA is a not-for-profit public benefit corporation created by the New York State Legislature in 1990 to deliver a comprehensive solid waste management and resource recovery system to Onondaga County residents.

OCRRA's system includes: a strong recycling and composting program, a foundation for local waste disposal at the Waste-to-Energy Facility, two convenient trash and recycling drop off sites, a robust

education component and programs for hard to manage materials, such as household hazardous waste, batteries, fluorescent bulbs and other mercury-containing devices.

OCRRA's award-winning programs are funded by trash drop-off fees and the sale of electricity generated at the Waste-to-Energy Facility in Jamesville, NY. Learn more and get involved at <u>www.OCRRA.org</u>, or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>.

About Feed Our Vets: Feed Our Vets is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to help Veterans in the United States, their spouses and children whose circumstances have left them on the battlefield of hunger, and to involve the public in fighting Veteran hunger.

We do this through:

- Community food pantries that provide regular, free food distributions to veterans and their families
- Distribution of related goods and services.
- Public education and outreach

More than 130,000 Veterans are homeless and hungry on any given night in America. One in three homeless people in America is a U.S. Military Veteran. And nearly four million Veterans and their families don't have enough to eat during the year. We provide food for veterans throughout the US.

Learn more at www.feedourvets.org.

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