

MEDIA RELEASE

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**Celebrate Earth Day with OCRRA: Get Rid of Household
Hazardous Waste and Recycle Textiles and Electronics with Ease**
OCRRA shares drop-off options for non-blue bin materials

SYRACUSE, N.Y., Apr. 19, 2017 – Earth Day is the perfect time to purge your home of toxic materials, old electronics and textiles. While these items cannot go in the blue bin, OCRRA can tell you how to manage these materials with ease.

1) Household Toxics

Hazardous waste found at home includes oil-based paints, garden supplies, mothballs and automotive products. None of these items should be thrown down the drain or in the trash.

Onondaga County residents can conveniently drop off toxic household materials Monday through Friday, between 6:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. through OCRRA's Household Hazardous Waste Program.

Keep children, pets, wildlife and waterways safe. Make an online appointment at www.OCRRA.org or call OCRRA at 315-453-2866.

An appointment guarantees free drop-off of approved household materials at Environmental Products and Services of Vermont, which is minutes from Destiny USA on State Fair Boulevard in Syracuse.

This program is underwritten by OCRRA and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. Only toxic materials from households within the OCRRA service area will be accepted for free through this program. Business materials do NOT qualify, but can be managed through Environmental Products and Services of Vermont for a fee.

Since OCRRA began the Household Hazardous Waste Collection over two decades ago, more than 250,000 gallons of toxic materials have been safely managed and recycled through this program.

2) Old Clothes and Textiles

In the United States, 85% of textiles are thrown away, but 95% of those textiles could be reused or recycled.

Textiles include: clothes, footwear, blankets, drapes, towels, sheets, hats, stuffed toys and belts.

Doing your part is as easy as cleaning your closets out every now and then and dropping your old textiles off at the many convenient locations in our community. Visit www.tinyurl.com/cny-textiles for a list of locations that accept textiles for recycling year-round.

TIP: These items do NOT have to be in “wearable” or perfect condition; they should, however, be clean and dry. Some materials are resold / reused, while unwearable items are recycled into industrial wiping cloths and fiberfill for insulation or carpet padding.

3) Electronic Waste

E-Waste includes televisions, computers, monitors, keyboards, mice, scanners, printers, tablets, VCRs, digital video recorders, portable digital music players, DVD players, digital converter boxes, cable / satellite receivers and video game consoles.

Many of these items contain heavy metals which can pollute our environment if improperly disposed. Recycle these items year-round at local drop spots. Visit www.ocrra.org/resources/electronics/ for a list of recycling locations. With the exception of televisions and cathode ray tube (CRT) monitors, these items are accepted for free.

The Salvation Army on Erie Boulevard in Syracuse will accept working and non-working televisions and CRT monitors for recycling at no cost. These items do not have to work, but they cannot be physically broken.

TIP: On occasion, local elected officials also sponsor electronic recycling events. Register for OCRRA email blasts at www.OCRRA.org and follow us on Facebook to be advised of upcoming events.

Recycling in Onondaga County takes various forms. Many items that cannot go in the blue bin can still be recycled. Visit www.OCRRA.org to search our “How do I get rid of...” database for answers to all your recycling and trash questions.

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 www.OCRRA.org, or follow us on [Facebook](#).

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