

MEDIA RELEASE
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For Immediate Release

OCRRA CONTACT
Kristen Lawton,
Public Information Officer, OCRRA
(315) 295-0733, klawton@ocrra.org

FEED OUR VETS CONTACT
Melissa Kehler,
Chief Strategy Officer, Feed Our Vets
(315) 525-9206, melissa@feedourvets.org

Destroy Confidential Documents at Oct. 7 Shredding Event

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

SYRACUSE, N.Y., Sep. 26, 2017 – Onondaga County households are invited to collect their confidential documents and destroy them securely at OCRRA’s fall Shred-o-Rama. The event happens on Saturday, October 7 from 8 a.m. to noon at the Brown Parking Lot of the NYS Fairgrounds (enter across the street from Gates 3 and 4 on State Fair Boulevard). **For video instructions on how to get there, what is accepted and how to prepare materials, visit www.tinyurl.com/ShreddingPrep.**

[Confidata](#), a division of [Empire Recycling Corporation](#), [Proshred](#), [Shred Solvers](#) and [Simple Shred](#) are collaborating with

OCRRA to help residents prevent identity theft and ensure that their shredded paper is recycled. All four are local document shredding companies with mobile shredding vehicles.

The event includes 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 www.feedourvets.org/much-needed-items/ for a list preferred items.



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.

“More than 130,000 veterans are homeless and hungry on any given night in America,” said Rich Synek, executive director and founder of Feed Our Vets. “Food or monetary donations Shred-o-Rama attendees bring in go directly 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, credit card statements and other items containing account numbers or private details are ideal for drop off. Items containing only your name and address are non-confidential and will not be accepted at the event (e.g., junk mail, magazines, newspapers, etc.)

Attendees do not need a reservation and there is no charge, thanks to the document shredding companies’ generous donation of their time and talent.

Participants should do the following:

1. Bring only **confidential** documents generated at home (e.g., tax forms, medical documents, bank information, credit card statements, or other items with account numbers). No phonebooks, magazines, newspapers, junk mail, receipts, hanging file folders, binders, photos, photo albums will be accepted. *Materials from businesses are not accepted at the event.*
2. Pack confidential documents loosely, in cardboard boxes. **Five box limit per vehicle. Boxes should be medium-sized and easy to lift (measuring roughly 10" x 12" x 15") to keep attendees and staff safe from lifting injuries.** Do not bring items in plastic bags. Remove binders or other non-paper contaminants; paperclips, staples and window envelopes are acceptable.
3. Enter the Brown Parking Lot of the NYS Fair from State Fair Boulevard, across the street from Gates 3 and 4.
4. Stay in their vehicle, but make sure their trunk / back doors are unlocked and easy for staff to open quickly; staff unloads all vehicles.

“Confidata is proud to be a long-term partner in this event, which offers the twin benefits of helping thousands of residents protect themselves against identity theft while also recycling many tons of paper,” said Rob Shauger, director of sales and development, Confidata.

“Proshred Security has a long history of contributing to the local community we serve. Because of that commitment, we are very excited to offer our services to OCRRA’s free shred event this year,” said Brian Samson, branch manager, Proshred Syracuse.

“Shred Solvers is happy to be helping Onondaga County residents protect their identity by donating our trucks and staff resources to Shred-o-Rama,” said Jim Van Auken, owner Shred Solvers.

“It is clear our community is savvy to the importance of shredding confidential documents,” said Steve Palmere, owner Simple Shred. “We look forward to helping residents do that safely and conveniently on October 7.”

“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.

*Workplaces in need of shredding services should visit www.OCRRA.org 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 www.OCRRA.org, or follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/OCRRA).

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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