



Fall 2014 Newsletter | Volume 22 | No. 3

OCRRA Joins Statewide Textile Recovery Campaign and You Can Too

Participate in Special Drop-Off Event on November 15 at Destiny USA

Andrew Radin, Director of Recycling and Waste Reduction



THERMOMETER / STAT DROP-OFFPG 2
Help remove mercury from the waste stream and get a Home Depot gift card in return!



LEAF MANAGEMENT.....PG 3
Terry Ettinger expounds on the environmental benefits of leaving your leaves where they land.



FLUORESCENT BULB RECYCLING PG 3
Rhoda shines a spotlight on safe bulb disposal practices.



WASTE-TO-ENERGY REPORTPG 4
Our local power plant scores well on annual report card.



TVs AND E-WASTE.. PG 7
Find out where you can recycle your old electronics in Onondaga County.

What would you say if each year our community simply trashed \$3 million? That's right; just took all that value and put it in the garbage. Crazy, right? Well, that is exactly what is happening.

Onondaga County residents trash an estimated 20 million pounds of potentially recyclable textiles annually, with an estimated market value of **\$3 million!** It is a significant lost recycling opportunity, and an unfortunate lost job opportunity; capturing those textiles could generate over 130 new recycling jobs in our community alone!

This issue extends across our state, and the entire country. An estimated 1.4 billion pounds of textiles are trashed by New Yorkers annually (about 5% of the total trash stream), with an estimated market value of **over \$200 million.** Some 9,600 jobs would be created across the state if that material was dropped off for

reuse and recycling. Across the country, only 15% of recyclable textiles are actually recovered; 85% ends up in the trash – that is about 70 pounds trashed per person each year!

The good news: OCRRA is teaming up with leading textile recovery experts to reverse this trend and help our community attain the economic, environmental and social benefits of increased textile recycling.

A statewide textile recovery campaign will launch on November 15, America Recycles Day. Campaign organizers include the New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse, and Recycling (NYSAR³), the Council for Textile Recycling (CTR) and the Association of Wiping Materials, Used Clothing and Fiber Industries (also known as Secondary Materials and Recycled Textiles, or "SMART").

Now, it's time for you to help make the campaign a success:

- 1) Learn what materials should be recovered. This includes DRY clothing, bedding, towels, hats and shoes. It is okay if these things are torn, stained, have missing buttons or broken zippers; they can all be recycled! See box below for details.
- 2) Find a textile drop off location near you by visiting www.tinyurl.com/CNY-textiles, or come to the special textile drop off event on Saturday, November 15, from

- 8:00 a.m. to noon, at the Destiny USA parking area off Solar Street. All textiles will be donated to the Syracuse Rescue Mission.
- 3) Visit www.NYSAR3.org to learn more about the statewide campaign to create jobs, reduce waste, and recycle more textiles.

Thank you for helping to "clothes the loop!"

Andrew Radin can be reached at aradin@ocrra.org.



85% of recyclable textiles end up in the trash – that is about 70 pounds per person each year! Help recycle old clothing, shoes, accessories and stuffed animals by bringing them (even if they are stained or torn) to the November 15 textile drop off event at Destiny USA.

Recyclable Textiles

- **All Footwear.**
- **Accessories:** Hats, gloves, scarves, pocketbooks, duffle bags, totes, belts, ties, etc.
- **Clothing:** Clean and dry; rips, stains, missing buttons and non-functioning zippers are okay.
- **Stuffed Animals.**
- **Linens:** Sheets, blankets, comforters, dish towels, throw rugs, draperies, table linens, placemats.



TEXTILE RECOVERY
#ClothesTheLoopNY

WANTED: MERCURY Thermostats & Thermometers

Residents who turn in mercury-containing items reap “double bounty” reward

Kathleen Carroll, Covanta Onondaga Business Manager

Covanta Onondaga, OCRRA's partner and operator of the local Waste-to-Energy Facility is celebrating an important milestone in environmental protection. In conjunction with clients and host communities such as Onondaga County, Covanta has worked to collect over one ton of mercury throughout the United States.

In 2009, through their Clean World Initiative, Covanta introduced a campaign and outreach program to educate the public about the proper disposal of mercury containing products. The cornerstone of the program was the offer of a \$5 bounty, in the form of a Home Depot gift card, for the return of a mercury containing thermostat to a participating collection point. Covanta chose to target thermostats because one thermostat contains the same amount of mercury (4 grams) as about 800 compact fluorescent bulbs.

A Ton of Thanks – Double Bounty Event

In recognition of the joint efforts of Covanta and OCRRA, along with Covanta's other energy from waste facilities to collect over one ton of mercury, Covanta is “upping the ante” by establishing a limited-time double bounty program with OCRRA.

On October 23, 2014, we invite all residents to **drop off any mercury containing ther-**

mometers or thermostats at OCRRA's Rock Cut Road Drop-Off Site, between 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Participating residents will receive a “Double Bounty” Home Depot Gift Card worth \$10 when they turn in a mercury containing thermostat or thermometer. Residents dropping off a mercury containing thermometer will also receive a mercury-free (digital) thermometer!*

All residents of Onon-

daga County are welcome to participate and celebrate this important environmental milestone.

Covanta and OCRRA appreciate the outstanding efforts and vital role that residents play in the safe and proper removal of mercury from their waste.

**One gift card per resident, regardless of the number of mercury containing items that are dropped off at the event.*

Kathleen Carroll can be reached at kcarroll@covanta.com



Covanta Onondaga Business Manager Kathy Carroll gives resident Gene Koloski of Marcellus a Home Depot gift card and digital thermometer in exchange for the mercury containing thermometer he dropped off to OCRRA. Drop off your mercury thermometer or thermostat at OCRRA's Rock Cut Road Drop-Off Site on Thursday, October 23, between 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. and get a \$10 Home Depot gift card courtesy of Covanta!

OCRRA Takes Home the Gold

For many years, the National Recycling Coalition (NRC), a non-profit organization focused on promoting and enhancing recycling throughout the United States, has bestowed a handful of coveted awards upon the most outstanding recyclers in the industry. This year, from an applicant pool of over seventy nominees, OCRRA was honored with the “Outstanding Recycling Community or Government Program” Award at the NRC National Conference in New Orleans! The award recognized OCRRA's recycling programs as a model of innovation, progress and success for other communities.



An excerpt from OCRRA's nomination:

“In 2013, OCRRA, a not-for-profit public benefit corporation, helped the 450,000 residents of Onondaga County, New York, recycle over 230,000 tons of material; nearly 50% of the total waste stream. In addition, over the past few years, OCRRA has helped the community recycle over four million pounds of electronic waste, over one million pounds of batter-

ies, over 30,000 pounds of fluorescent lamps and over 80,000 pounds of confidential (shredded) documents. OCRRA is now processing over 50,000 pounds of institutional and commercial food scraps weekly into high-quality, STA-certified compost at its Amboy Food Scrap Composting Facility, the largest such municipal operation in New York State. This has all been achieved through an innovative public education campaign (“Save the World a Little Each Day”), and a commitment to invest in environmental programs that maximize waste reduction and material recovery for recycling and reuse.”

*This is an award that the entire community shares in; if you recycled at home today, at work or while having a meal at a local food court, you helped our community achieve this national honor. Without your participation, OCRRA's programs would not be the national, award-winning successes that they are today. **Kudos to you, Onondaga County!***



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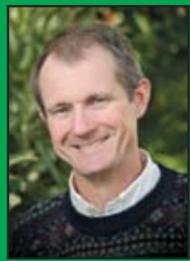
This quarterly publication is brought to you by

OCRRA

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

KRISTEN LAWTON
Public Information Officer

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The Garden GURU

Terry Ettinger
Instructional Support Specialist, SUNY - ESF

Ahhhh, autumn . . . the days are (often) sunny and mild and the evenings are crisp. When combined, these conditions lead to a brilliant display of colorful fall foliage.

Of course, the colors quickly fade, the leaves drop from the trees and the incessant whining of leaf blowers, the beeping of payloaders and the growl of idling caravans of dump trucks become commonplace in neighborhoods throughout Central New York as thousands of loads of leaves are hauled “away.”

At a direct cost (labor, equipment, fuel, etc.) of well over \$100 per truck-load this annual village, town and city collection ritual likely costs taxpayers

between \$1 million and \$2 million per year in Onondaga County alone.

Sadly, nearly this entire expenditure is completely unnecessary!

Research conducted at numerous public universities over the past thirty years has shown that leaves shredded by lawnmowers and left on lawns cause no damage. In fact, the **decaying leaves improve the vigor and appearance of lawns by returning organic matter and nutrients to the soil.**

Now, I realize that convincing you and your neighbors to completely give up your rakes is a pretty tall order. So, instead, why not do a little experiment this fall?

Throw Your Leaf Rake Away!



Indirect costs associated with leaves decomposing after they are raked to curbs for collection include neighborhood flooding caused by clogged catch basins, clogged screening equipment at wastewater treatment plants and excessive nutrient loading in streams, rivers and lakes. Reduce these negative impacts and mow leaves into your lawn; this will improve its vigor and appearance over time.

In half of your yard, go ahead and rake the leaves – but please, not to the curb. Rather, rake them into landscape beds, dig them into your vegetable garden or compost them in temporary compost bins located conveniently and discretely

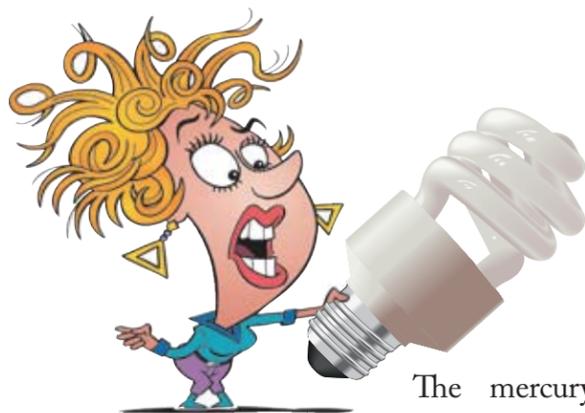
throughout your property.

In the other half of your lawn, whenever more than two or three inches of leaves accumulate, mow at the highest setting, maybe two or three times a week until your trees (and your neighbor’s) are bare.

I’m confident that a year

from now you won’t be able to tell the difference between the half of the lawn you raked and the half you mowed. I’m hopeful the evidence in your own yard will convince you to toss your rake for good!

Terry Ettinger can be reached at tlettinger@esf.edu.



Recycling Rhoda

Talks Trash – and Recycling!

Compact Fluorescent Bulbs

Dear Rhoda,

I have several burnt out compact fluorescent light bulbs, you know the ones that sort of resemble a soft ice cream spiral in a cone? What should I do with them? I understand they contain mercury and should not be thrown out. Where can I bring these and make sure they end up being handled and disposed of correctly?

Fluorescent Flo

Dear Flo,

Well, it seems you are a bright bulb yourself since you already know compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) shouldn’t go in the circular file – NOR the blue bin. That’s right, no deep sixing these guys, if you know what’s good for you AND the environment!

The mercury in these bulbs is in vapor form, which is embedded in the powder coating on the inside of the bulb. It is dangerous when it leaks out, which – you guessed it – happens when they break, even if they don’t work anymore. Soooo...get off your keaster and take advantage of a great, free service that OCRRA offers in partnership with most Ace and True Value Hardware stores in Onondaga County.

Just plug the following web link www.tinyurl.com/hardwarestores - into your computer browser to find a list of the stores (including a few independents) that will take them and recycle them in a safe way.

Oh, and I’ll do you one

better. These stores will even take assorted other styles and sizes of fluorescent bulbs from households (up to 4 feet in length, nothing longer), and recycle those too! Visit the previously mentioned link for size and style information.

But wait, there’s more! Do I sound like Ron Popeil yet? If you have other hazardous household materials hanging around your home, maybe some old pool chemicals, oil-based paints, garden chemicals, etc., why not make an appointment for OCRRA’s Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Drop-Off Program? It is conveniently offered year-round, Monday – Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. All you need is an appoint-

ment, which you can make by visiting the same link previously referenced (limit 10 fluorescent bulbs per appointment).

Don’t have other HHW materials or only have a few CFLs? You can also drop off CFL bulbs (no other sizes or styles) at Home Depot or Lowe’s, where they will make sure the mercury is reclaimed as well.

Now let’s talk about fluorescent bulb accidents. If you break a fluorescent bulb and need to clean it up, stop, drop and roll. No, just kidding – that’s for my fire safety talk next week.

How to Safely Manage a Broken Fluorescent Bulb: Immediately open windows. Shut off central air or heat systems. Leave the room for

15 minutes. When you return, DO NOT VACUUM; this will spread the mercury containing powder into the air.

Pick up large glass fragments with stiff paper and wipe up with a disposable rag or paper towel. Picking up tiny fragments with packing tape is also helpful if your break is on carpet or upholstery. Place all fragments (and the materials you use to collect them) in a glass jar with lid or heavy-duty, sealed plastic bag. Now you can vacuum, but be sure to toss out your bag or clean your canister when done. The broken fluorescent bulb, having released most of the mercury, can now be safely discarded in the trash. And, there you have it.

Recycling Rhoda

Careful Monitoring of the Trash to Electricity Process...Each Year and Each and Every Single Day

Waste-to-Energy Facility continues strong environmental and operational track record

Amy Miller, Agency Engineer



Q: What is the purpose of annual air emissions stack testing?

A: Stack testing is an important tool that measures the amount of regulated pollutants being emitted from a facility. Stack testing consists of a series of sampling events, where a probe is inserted into the stack to collect a representative sample of the gases released, over a defined amount of time. Sampling and laboratory analysis must be conducted in accordance with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) protocols. **NYSDEC oversees, and is generally on-site during stack testing at the Onondaga County Waste-to-Energy (WTE) Facility.**

Q: How do the 2014 stack test results look?

A: The results from the 2014 stack testing indicate that the Facility is operating acceptably and that the air pollution control devices are functioning properly. As shown by the graph on the next page, many of the tested constituents were considerably below the permit limit.

Q: Does the Facility conduct any other air emissions testing besides the annual stack testing?

A: Yes. The Facility has a continuous emissions monitoring system (CEMS) that measures combustion efficiency, air pollution control equipment performance, and certain stack emissions, specifically carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, oxygen, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides (NOx), as well as opacity and combustion temperatures.

Q: What is the status of the WTE Facility's Air (Title V) Permit?

A: NYSDEC renewed the Facility's Air Permit, effective August 8, 2011 through August 7, 2016. The permit can be accessed on NYSDEC's website at the following webpage: www.tinyurl.com/WTEpermit.

2014 ASH RESIDUE CHARACTERIZATION TEST RESULTS

Semi-Annual Test Results - June 2014			
Constituent	Test Result	Permit Limit	Pass or Fail
Cadmium	0.12 mg/L	1 mg/L	Pass
Lead	0.50 mg/L	5 mg/L	Pass

CONCLUSION
Ash residue does NOT exhibit a hazardous characteristic. As such, it should continue to be managed as a non-hazardous solid waste.

Q: What is the purpose of the semi-annual ash testing and how do the 2014 results look?

A: A representative sample of combined bottom and fly ash residue is collected according to NYSDEC protocols. This sample is then analyzed by an independent laboratory for leachable metals, according to EPA's Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP). TCLP analysis simulates landfill conditions (the final disposal site for the ash) and determines whether the ash residue exhibits hazardous characteristics. **Over the life of the facility (including the most recent 2014 results), TCLP analysis has always indicated that the ash residue is non-hazardous.**

Q: Who can I contact for more information?

A: For more detailed information on the test results, please contact OCRRA's Environmental Engineer, Amy Miller, at 453.2866 or amiller@ocrra.org. For additional questions of OCRRA's Public Information Officer, please contact Kristen Lawton at 295.0733 or klawton@ocrra.org.

2014 ANNUAL STACK TEST RESULTS

	Constituent	Average Measured Emissions ¹			Permit Limit ²	Pass/Fail?	
		Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3			
TESTED ANNUALLY	FEDERAL	Cadmium (mg/dscm @ 7% O ₂)	2.5E-04	< 1.7E-04	3.6E-04	3.5E-02	P
		Cadmium (lb/hr)	3.8E-05	< 2.8E-05	6.1E-05	1.9E-03	P
		Carbon Monoxide (lb/hr)	1.22E+00	1.75E+00	1.37E+00	8.04E+00	P
		Dioxins/Furans (ng/dscm @ 7% O ₂)	2.9E+00	1.0E+01	3.3E+00	3.0E+01	P
		Hydrogen Chloride (ppmdv @ 7% O ₂)	3.4E+00	3.0E+00	7.1E+00	2.5E+01	P
		Hydrogen Chloride (lb/hr)	8.05E-01	7.71E-01	1.80E+00	5.24E+00	P
		Hydrogen Chloride Removal Efficiency (%)	99.5	99.6	98.8	>=95	P
		Lead (mg/dscm @ 7% O ₂)	3.13E-03	1.46E-03	5.52E-03	4.00E-01	P
		Lead (lb/hr)	4.84E-04	2.42E-04	9.28E-04	3.81E-02	P
		Mercury (lb/hr)	1E-04	2E-04	1E-04	4E-03	P
		Nitrogen Oxides (lb/hr)	5.1E+01	5.3E+01	5.2E+01	5.8E+01	P
		Particulates (gr/dscf @ 7% O ₂)	3.2E-04	5.2E-04	6.0E-04	1.0E-02	P
		PM ₁₀ (gr/dscf @ 7% O ₂)	2.7E-04	2.1E-04	2.2E-04	1.0E-02	P
		PM ₁₀ (lb/hr)	9.50E-02	7.67E-02	8.06E-02	3.16E+00	P
		Sulfur Dioxide (lb/hr)	6.90E-02	5.00E-02	5.44E-01	1.62E+01	P
STATE	Ammonia (ppmdv @ 7% O ₂)	4.6E+00	4.8E+00	5.7E+00	5.0E+01	P	
	Ammonia (lb/hr)	5.09E-01	5.74E-01	6.71E-01	4.88E+00	P	
	Dioxins/Furans-2,3,7,8 TCDD TEQ (ng/dscm @ 7% O ₂)	4E-02	1E-01	5E-02	4E-01	P	
	Dioxins/Furans-2,3,7,8 TCDD TEQ (lb/hr)	6.45E-09	1.99E-08	8.28E-09	1.29E-07	P	
	Mercury (µg/dscm @ 7% O ₂)	7.8E-01	1.0E+00	6.6E-01	2.8E+01	P	
	Mercury Removal Efficiency (%)	99	98	99	>=85	P	
	PAH (µg/dscm @ 7% O ₂)	< 3.2E-01	2.0E-01	2.8E-01	1.0E+00	P	
Zinc (lb/hr)	3.79E-03	2.50E-03	5.88E-03	6.45E-02	P		

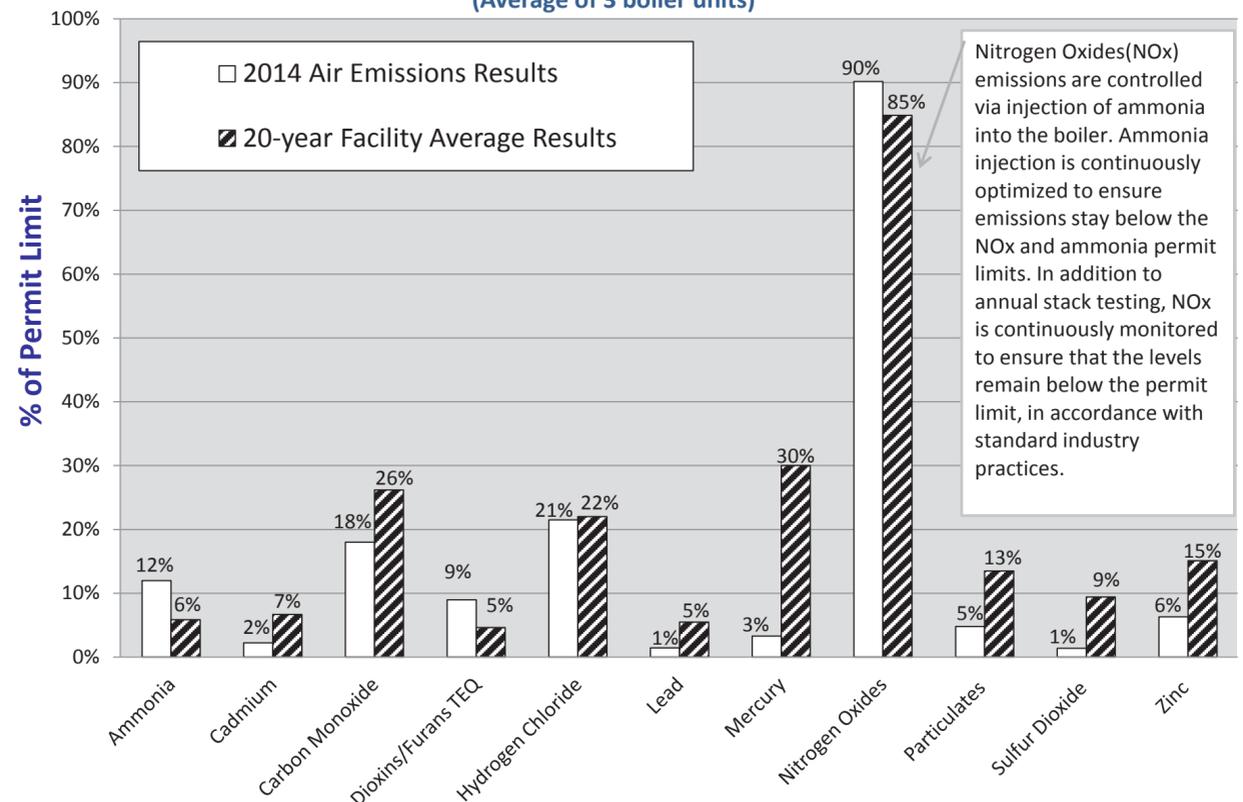
NOTES:

- ¹ Based on three test runs.
- ² NYSDEC Title V Permit #7-3142-00028

UNITS:

- gr/dscf = grains per dry standard cubic foot
- ppmdv = parts per million dry volume
- lb/hr = pounds per hour
- dscm = dry standard cubic meter
- @ 7% O₂ = concentration corrected to 7% oxygen
- ng = nanograms
- µg = micrograms
- mg = milligrams

Waste-to-Energy Facility Air Emissions as a % of the Facility Permit Limits (Average of 3 boiler units)



Jordan-Elbridge Students Embark on School-Wide Cafeteria Food Scrap Compost Program

Theresa Mandery, Recycling Specialist

The words “back to school” carry with them many things: excitement, nerves, friendships, books and perhaps even a fresh hair cut or a new pair of shoes. For the students of the Jordan-Elbridge Central School District, this year going back to school was about more than first-day butterflies. It was also the kick-off to an innovative food scrap composting initiative (making them the second district to jump on board OCRRA’s award-winning food scrap composting program).

Elbridge Elementary and Jordan-Elbridge Middle School now join the impressive company of other environmental leaders such as Syracuse University, Onondaga Community Col-

lege, Le Moyne College, Marcellus Central Schools and Destiny USA, 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. Ultimately, these efforts will generate 30,000 cubic yards of high quality compost each year!

In the Jordan-Elbridge District, all students, whether they bring or buy their lunch, are now separating out their uneaten food scraps for composting. They do this by scraping their leftovers into a new, well-labeled, compost receptacle. They are also able to add leftover milk to the compost, and then recycle

those bulky milk cartons! This initiative allows students first-hand, daily involvement in environmental conservation.

The Jordan-Elbridge School District takes its compost efforts one step further, by also composting pre-consumer food scraps that result from meal prep in the kitchens.

These waste reduction efforts really add up when everyone pitches in. Facilities already noticed a significant decrease in trash.

“Typically we would have seen about 16 bags of trash per day from the cafeteria. In the first two days of the compost program, we are down to just 4 bags of trash per day,” said Vinny Smith, Director of Buildings and Grounds for the Jordan-Elbridge Central School District.

Jordan-Elbridge’s compost efforts are going so well, that they are planning to bring the high school in ahead of schedule, yielding full District participation by the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, more food reaches landfills and incinerators



Students at Jordan-Elbridge Middle School separate their leftover food scraps to be collected and brought to OCRRA’s Amboy Compost Facility, where they will be turned into nutrient-rich compost to help grow healthy plants in our community.

than any other single material in the trash. In 2012 alone, more than 36 million tons of food waste was generated in the U.S.

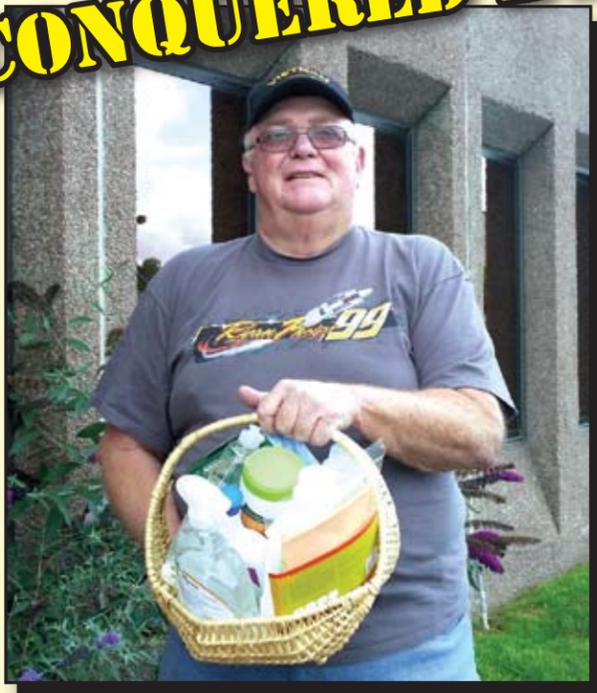
All food waste that is collected from Jordan-Elbridge schools will be brought to OCRRA’s Amboy Compost Facility in Camillus where it will be turned into a nutrient-rich

soil amendment that can be used to grow healthy plants in our community.

If you are interested in learning more about food scrap composting, including how you can get your school on board, visit **OCRRA.org** today!

Theresa Mandery can be reached at tmandery@ocrra.org.

Household Hazardous Waste... CONQUERED BY:



Edward Webster of Syracuse

Webster is OCRRA’s Summer Household Hazardous Waste appointment raffle winner. Edward won a basket full of green cleaning products. Get rid of your household toxics safely at OCRRA’s year-round drop off; make an appointment at **OCRRA.org** and be entered for a chance to win too!

EASY!

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off

When: Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Register: www.OCRRA.org or call 453-2866.

You must have an appointment.

Visit **OCRRA.org** for a list of acceptable items and for directions to the drop-off location.

We cannot accept: Latex Paint, Fire Extinguishers, Batteries or Motor Oil.



From the Executive Director's desk...

End-of-Life: TVs and other electronic waste

Legislation paves way for easier e-waste recycling in New York State

Mark Donnelly, Executive Director

With two years under my belt as OCRRA's Executive Director, I continue to be awed at the number of recycling and disposal solutions OCRRA provides the community.

Over time, OCRRA's programs have evolved to meet the needs of our residents and electronic waste (or e-waste) recycling is a prime example.

For many years, OCRRA had several events throughout the year where residents could drop off old electronic materials for recycling. There was a fee for TV disposal, as they were – and continue to be – very costly to manage properly, though OCRRA underwrote the cost of recycling all the other e-waste materials collected.

As the e-waste stream grew and grew, OCRRA transitioned to a drop-off location that was open multiple times a week to make it more convenient for residents to dispose of the plethora of unwanted e-waste that was glutting our homes.

In 2010, New York State passed a multi-phased law that required electronic manufacturers to “take-back” unwanted e-waste from households, schools and small businesses at no charge. This includes:

- 1) Televisions
- 2) Computers
- 3) Computer Peripherals*
(Monitors, Keyboards, Mice, Facsimile Machines, Scanners, Printers, etc.)
- 4) Small Electronic Equipment*
(VCRs, Digital Video Recorders, Portable Digital Music Players, DVD Players, Digital Converter Boxes, Cable or Satellite Receivers, Video Game Consoles, etc.)
- 5) Small Scale Servers

* Computer peripherals and small electronic equipment also include any cable, cord or wiring permanently affixed to or incorporated into such product.

As a result, multiple businesses began, or expanded their e-waste recycling operations and now there are many convenient locations where e-waste can be recycled. However, in certain instances, implementation problems with the law are preventing no-cost drop offs. And here is where my story begins...

So, a few months ago, I had a DVD player, a television and a laptop to dispose of. I searched the OCRRA website (OCRRA.org) and found the local e-waste recycler closest to me. I load-

ed up the car and drove to this service provider. They have a very organized drop-off center and ask that you put your goods in the proper bin. Imagine my surprise when I saw a large sign indicating that they could no longer accept televisions or cathode ray tubes. (CRTs are found in older TVs and computer monitors and have deep screens). The sign indicated that I was on camera and would be prosecuted if I left CRTs at their facility! I had to take my television home. Why would this well-renowned recycling facility do this? I sought counsel from my brilliant Recycling Staff and this is what I learned...

Why some locations no longer are accepting TVs and old computer monitors:

In a nutshell, that state law I mentioned has been an overarching environmental win, keeping thousands of tons of e-waste out of the trash across our great state. But, some discrepancies in the law are causing manufacturers to pull back from **year-round** financial support of the e-waste collection system. Some locations are forced to stop collecting unwanted electronics since payment by the manufacturers to properly recycle these materials is uncertain.



Keeping heavy metals out of the environment by recycling old electronics, including televisions, is easy if you know where to go. Visit OCRRA.org for a list of drop-off locations – please call in advance to see if they accept the items you are looking to recycle.

The good news: Efforts are already underway to amend and improve the law, and there are still numerous locations to drop off unwanted televisions and old computer monitors in Onondaga County. Please visit www.tinyurl.com/ewasterecycling2014 to find a recycler near you. Also, it is a good idea to call the location you plan to visit, in advance, to deter-

mine if there are any drop-off limitations or charges at this time.

Reuse and Recycling are very important to our environment. Before disposing of something that still works, consider donating it to someone who needs it. If it has lived its useful life, please recycle it responsibly. I did and you can too!

Mark Donnelly can be reached at mdonnelly@ocrra.org.

Deep frying your turkey this Thanksgiving?

Be sure to recycle your fryer grease.



Visit www.tinyurl.com/greaseOCRRA for details.

Need premium compost for your fall landscaping?



OCRRA's Premium (1/4") Compost in 40 lb. bags, is available for purchase at over a dozen local retailers. Grow vibrant plants with this nutrient-rich soil amendment made from local food scraps and yard wastes!

Find a list of local retailers that sell OCRRA compost by the bag at www.tinyurl.com/CompostRetailers

TEXTILE RECYCLING WORD SEARCH

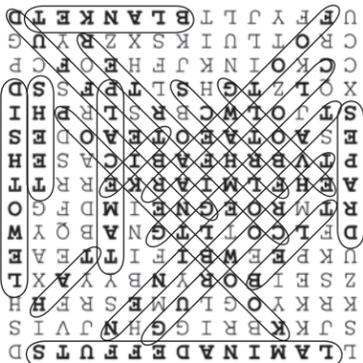
Find the items below that can be recycled at various locations in Onondaga County, even if they are ripped, worn or stained!

- Belt
- Blanket
- Clothing
- Comforter
- Dish Towel
- Drapes
- Duffle Bag
- Footwear
- Glove
- Hat
- Placemat
- Pocketbook
- Scarf
- Sheet
- Stuffed Animal
- Table Linen
- Throw Rug
- Tie

L L A M I N A D E F F U T S D
 S J K K B R I G G H N J V I S
 K R K Y O G L U M E S R F H H
 Z S E I B O R Y N B Y Y A X L
 U K P E E W B I F I T T E A E
 D F L C O T L T G N A B Q Y W
 R T M R O E G N E I M D F G O
 A E H F L M I A R K E R R T T
 P T V B R H F A B I C A S E H
 E S A O T A E O T E A O D E S
 S T J O L W C B R S L R P H I
 X Q L Z T G H S L T P F S S D
 C C K O I N K J F H E O F C P
 C R O T L U I K S X Z R Y U G
 U F F Y J L T B L A N K E T D



Answer Key



Facebook Question of the Quarter



AEROSOL CANS

Amy Hebert of Syracuse posted a very helpful photo and asked us:

Q: Are these spray canisters recyclable in Onondaga County?

A: Yes, non-hazardous content aerosol cans, like the hairspray cans you sent a photo of, can be recycled; check out this link for details: www.tinyurl.com/aerosolssafe.

If you have other cans with hazardous contents, they CANNOT go in the blue bin; see here for disposal instructions: www.tinyurl.com/aerosolstoxic

Thanks for posting that picture. It really helped us give you a quick and accurate answer. We hope other people will use this page just as you did!



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

Mark Your Calendar

Search our disposal database



MERCURY THERMOMETER AND THERMOSTAT DROP-OFF

OCTOBER 23

Rock Cut Road Drop-Off Site
7:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
See page 2 for details.

TEXTILE DROP-OFF EVENT

NOVEMBER 15

Destiny USA
Solar St. Lot
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
See page 1 for details.

COMPOST SITES CLOSE FOR THE SEASON

Last day of operations is
NOVEMBER 30

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF

Year-Round by Appointment
ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTS & SERVICES
6:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Register at OCRRA.org.