



Fall 2017 Newsletter | Volume 26 | No. 3



SHRED-O-RAMA .. PG 2

Protect your identity and shred your confidential documents on Saturday, October 7 at the NYS Fair Brown Parking Lot.



BLUE RIBBON RECYCLER.....PG 2

JUMO sets an example for local businesses with their superior recycling & waste reduction practices.



PLASTICS RECYCLING.....PG 3

Rhoda demystifies plastics recycling.



UPSTATEPG 6

Learn how Upstate Medical University is a leader in environmental progress.



ELECTRONICS RECYCLING.....PG 6

Find out how you can recycle your old TV and other electronic waste year-round.

Onondaga County Executive Invites Our Community to “Block Litter”

Joanie Mahoney, Onondaga County Executive

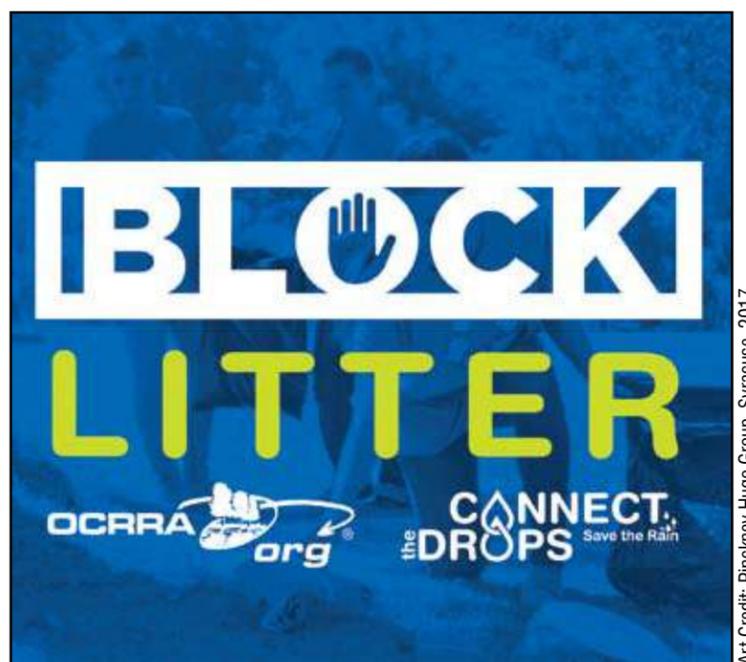
The “Block Litter” campaign is a unique, new initiative between Save the Rain and OCRRA that encourages local residents and businesses to help “Block Litter” where they live and work through regular neighborhood cleanups. The “Block Litter” program aims to educate community members about the importance of litter-free neighborhoods and how individuals can help clean up the community one block at a time. “Block Litter” is about small acts that play a big role in keeping our community clean...especially Onondaga Lake!

How it works: community members take a pledge to pick up litter on their street and volunteer to recruit neighbors and coworkers a few times a year for larger cleanups. The new program was formally introduced in June with some of our other partners including Visit

Syracuse, the Downtown Committee and Syracuse Common Councilors Joe Carni and Chad Ryan.

In Onondaga County, litter, rain and the storm-water system are all connected. When it rains, litter on the street is washed down storm drains, into the water system and, ultimately, into Onondaga Lake and its tributaries. Ninety-eight percent of trash that makes its way to Onondaga Lake is street-borne litter.

Individuals who make the pledge to “Block Litter” and clean their block will receive a free starter kit with more information and resources. People can sign up for a kit at **Block Litter.com**. Each kit includes invitations and stickers to help recruit others to participate in the effort. Community members are invited to share photos of how they are helping to block litter in



Art Credit: Pinckney Hugo Group, Syracuse, 2017

their neighborhoods using the hashtag **#BlockLitter** to inspire others to make their own impact.

The “Block Litter” program is a part of Save the Rain’s Connect the Drops campaign to reduce litter in local waterways including Onondaga Lake and OCRRA’s Save the World a Little Each Day™ initiative. Additional community partners include 40 Below,

Armory Square Association, Onondaga Earth Corps, and various local neighborhood groups.

To date, over 350 people in Onondaga County have taken the pledge to “Block Litter” and you can join them! To learn more and take the pledge online, visit **BlockLitter.com**.

The Block Litter Campaign can be reached at blocklitter@ongov.net.

Lessons in Household Toxics Disposal

With school starting, it is a great time to get a refresher on household toxics. Did you know you can 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. Get program details and sign up at www.OCRRA.org.



Photo Credit: Klineberg Photography, Syracuse, 2016

Shred-o-Rama Debuts at New Venue on October 7

Shredding event moved to NYS Fairgrounds Brown Parking Lot (across from Gates 3 and 4)

Theresa Evans, Recycling Specialist, OCRRA

Shredding confidential materials is an important step in combating identity theft. Medical documents, bank statements, tax forms and other personal records containing account numbers may be harmful if they get into the wrong hands. OCRRA, Confidata, Shred Solvers and Simple Shred can help you shred and recycle your confidential documents.

Attend Shred-o-Rama on Saturday, October 7, from 8 am to noon in the Brown Parking Lot of the NYS Fairgrounds (enter from State Fair Boulevard across from Gates 3 and 4). No advance reservations are required and the event is free to **households** in Onondaga County.

Feed Our Vets, a non-profit organization that helps veterans whose circumstances have left them on the battlefield of hunger, will be at the event accepting voluntary monetary or non-perishable food donations. Visit www.feedourvets.org/much-needed-items/ for a list of preferred food donations.

“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 that Shred-o-Rama attendees bring in go directly to stocking our mobile food pantry that feeds veterans in the Syracuse area.”

To reduce wait times, attendees are asked to:

1) Bring CONFIDENTIAL items ONLY; the following items will not be accepted: phonebooks, magazines, newspapers, junk mail, receipts, hanging file folders, binders, photos and photo albums, trash, electronics and hazardous waste.

2) Remove non-paper contaminants before arrival (plastic – bags, binders, folders; spiral notebooks; laminated items; electronic media including computer disks, CDs, etc.). *Staples, paperclips, tape and window envelopes are fine.*

3) Pack confidential documents loosely in easy to lift, **medium-size cardboard boxes** (measuring roughly 10” x 12”x 15”) to keep attendees and

staff safe from lifting injuries. There is a **five box limit per vehicle. Items in plastic bags will not be accepted** as they slow down the shredding process.

4) Unlock doors and trunks so that staff may quickly and easily access documents.

5) Stay in vehicle.

Please note the event is **FREE** and open to **household residents** in Onondaga County only. Business materials will not be accepted. If your workplace needs shredding services, visit www.OCRRA.org for details or contact a shredding service.

Since OCRRA began hosting Shred-o-Rama in 2004, our community has recycled over one million pounds of confidential documents. Many thanks to Confidata, Shred Solvers and Simple Shred who provide the paper shredding services. Without their generous support and donation of their time and trucks these document shredding extravaganzas would not be possible.

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



Photo Credit: Klineberg Photography, Syracuse, 2016

Event staffers unload resident vehicles at a past Shred-o-Rama event. Bring your confidential documents to the October 7 Shred-o-Rama where they will be shredded and ultimately recycled into new paper products. The event runs 8 am – 12 pm at the NYS Fair Brown Parking Lot (off State Fair Boulevard across from Gates 3 and 4). The event is free to households in Onondaga County.

DEFINITION: Confidential Document



Confidential documents contain account numbers. Below are examples of confidential documents that will be accepted at Shred-o-Rama:

- medical documents
- bank information
- credit card statements
- tax forms
- other records containing account numbers

Items containing only your name and mailing address are NOT confidential. Below are examples of NON-confidential documents. These items will NOT be accepted at Shred-o-Rama:

- phonebooks
- magazines
- newspapers
- junk mail
- receipts
- hanging file folders
- binders
- photos
- photo albums

Go Green ~ Become Blue...

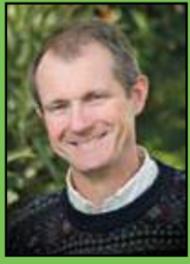
JUMO Process Control employees Katherine Pell (left) and Eva Wolske (right) receive their Blue Ribbon Recycler certificate from OCRRA's Dale Cocca (center). In addition to comprehensive cardboard, paper and container collection, JUMO Process Control, Inc. in East Syracuse also reuses boxes and packing for shipments. They have eliminated disposable wares from their break room and have a strong culture of reducing, reusing and recycling.

Become a Blue Ribbon Recycler!
www.tinyurl.com/blueribbonrecycler2017

Shred-o-Rama How-To Guide

Check out OCRRA's Shred-o-Rama videos on YouTube to learn what you can bring to Shred-o-Rama and how prepare your documents to reduce wait times. Visit www.tinyurl.com/ShreddingPrep

FACT: Bring oil-based paint to our year-round Household Toxics Drop Off. Latex paint is not accepted. Sign up at OCRRA.org.



The Garden GURU

Terry Ettinger
Instructional Support Specialist, SUNY - ESF

I've long recommended planting garden crops directly into OCRRA's compost.

So, to get a head start on next spring's vegetable garden, chop up this year's crop remnants and leave them right on top of your garden after the harvest is complete. Then, spread six to eight inches of fresh compost over the debris this fall. You can even take this one step further and alternate six inches of tree leaves – instead of raking them to the curb – with

two inches of compost!

Over the winter, the garden debris and tree leaves will start to decompose and the compost will settle. Then, as soon as daytime temperatures are reliably in the fifties next April, you can plant your early crops; peas, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, radishes, etc., right into the compost – no digging or rototilling required! As soil temperatures increase in May, any remaining garden debris and tree leaves will release nutrients for uptake by new crops.

This same process can be used for spots in your landscape where you plant annual flowers each spring, or where you plan to create new landscape beds or expand existing beds.

Finally, if you're planning to dig, divide and transplant perennial flowers this fall, the sooner the better at this point. That way, the root systems of the divisions will have a chance to become established before soil temperatures drop to near freezing in early December. At that point, you can add a four-inch layer of compost around the base of the divisions to keep the soil cold during mid-winter thaws. Keeping the ground fro-



Photo Credit: Terry Ettinger, Syracuse, 2017

Raised vegetable garden beds created with compost in the fall warm faster and drain more readily during cool, wet spring weather which results in earlier summer harvests. So get a jump on spring by spreading compost on your garden beds this fall.

zen with compost through alternating periods of freezing and thawing prevents plants from heaving or being pushed out of the

ground before they can fully take root.

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



Dear Rhoda,

Why can't I recycle all plastics that have the little recycling triangle on them? I was told I can only recycle bottles and jugs if they are #1 and #2, and tubs if they are #5. Why not the others?

Baffled in B'Ville

Dear Baffled in B'Ville,

My dear, this one is the recycling world's version of "where do babies come from?". Let me tell you about the 1s, 2s and 3s... You see, "plastic" is a catch-all word. The numbers in those recycling symbols refer to the type of plastic resin used in the product, and not whether they are in fact recyclable. For example, #3 plastics are made of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and #5 plastics are made of polypropylene (PP).

I'm not going to sugar coat it, but then again, I never do. What's recyclable – and what isn't – often starts with economics and not whether it's technically possible to recycle a certain material.

- Manufacturers buy recovered materials to make new recycled content products.
- However, sometimes it is more costly to use recovered materials in the manufacturing process than to make a product out of virgin material.
- The resale of recovered materials must cover the cost to sort, bale and ship those items to manufacturers. Without sufficient resale value, it is not economically viable to recycle certain items.

This boils down to the fact that currently we can-

not recycle everything, even if we want to.

What can you do?

Use your purchasing power to buy recycled-content items and packaging. This helps create demand for recycled content material and may eventually lead to the prevalence of recycling plastics beyond the #1 and #2 bottles/jugs and #5 tubs.

The reason that #1 and #2 plastic bottles and jugs, and #5 tubs are acceptable is two-fold:

- First, these represent the majority of consumable plastics out there. It's not too hard to find the other plastics, but they represent a much smaller piece of the pie. There is little or no market demand for these "other" plastics (e.g., plastic clamshells, such as strawberry containers).

- Second, it has to do with how plastics are sorted. Millions of pounds of recyclables are sorted at the Waste Management Material Recovery Facility in Onondaga County every week. The only way to process these volumes is with fast moving sorting machines.

Your clear plastic strawberry container stamped "#1" will invariably get flattened during collection, and once on the sorting line, it behaves like paper or cardboard, potentially contaminating the paper and cardboard stream. Bottles, jugs, and tubs get crushed to a degree, but they aren't completely flattened, and the machinery is able to separate them.

Moral of the story, if it isn't a plastic bottle/jug (#1 or #2) or a plastic tub

Talks Trash –
and Recycling!

Recycling Rhoda

Plastics By The Numbers

(#5), throw it out.

Putting non-marketable items in the blue bin causes contamination and increases recycling program costs. This detracts from other services that entities like OCRRA offer to their communities, such as Household Hazardous Waste programs, Earth Day Litter Cleanups and Shredding events, to name a few.

So there you have it; it's about the demand for particular recycled plastics and the ability to mechanically separate them from other recyclables.

As a final reminder, "when in doubt, throw it out." Contamination of the recycling stream is not a friend of the environment.

Cherrio,
Rhoda

Safely Converting Our Trash into Electricity

2017 Stack and Ash Testing Results for Onondaga County's Waste-to-Energy Facility

Amy Miller, Agency Engineer, OCRRA

While you read this article, the Onondaga County Waste-to-Energy (WTE) Facility is busy turning our County's non-recyclable trash into electricity – enough to power about 30,000 homes. Air pollution control equipment and continuous monitoring systems are in place to make sure it is done safely. Read on to discover what testing is done at the WTE Facility and learn what this year's WTE report card says.

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, in which 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 is 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 onsite during stack testing at the WTE Facility.**

Q: How do the 2017 stack test results look?

A: The results from the 2017 stack testing indicate that the Facility is operating acceptably and that the air pollution control devices are functioning properly. Many of the tested constituents were considerably below the permit limit. Visit **OCRRA.org** for a graph that shows additional details.

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

A: Yes. The Facility has a continuous emission

monitoring system (CEMS) that measures combustion efficiency, air pollution equipment performance and stack emissions. The CEMS monitors carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, oxygen, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides, as well as opacity and combustion temperatures.

Q: What is the purpose of the semi-annual ash testing and how do the 2017 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

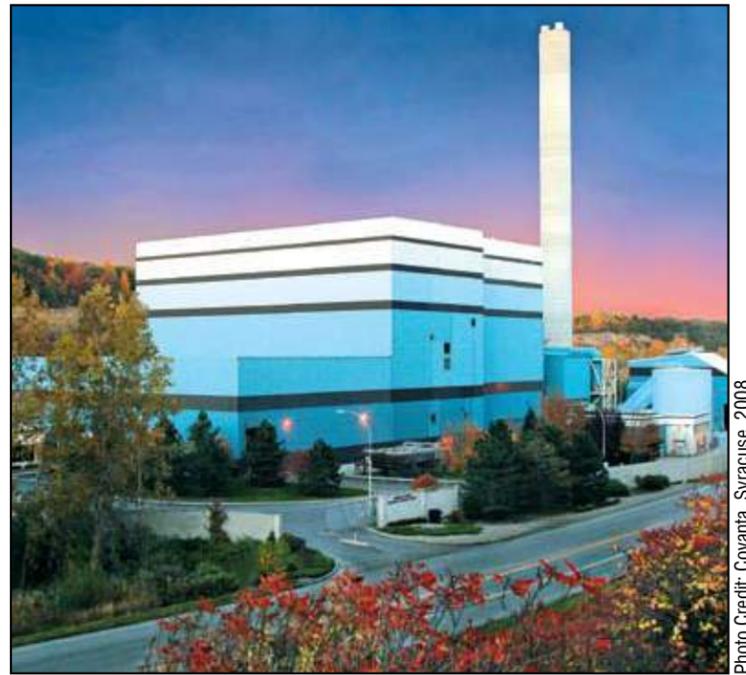


Photo Credit: Covanta, Syracuse, 2008

Onondaga County trash is sent to the local Waste-to-Energy Facility where it is burned at 2,000°F and converted into electricity (enough to power 15% of homes in our County).

hazardous characteristics. **Over the life of the facility (including the most recent 2017 results), TCLP analysis has always indicated that the ash residue is non-hazardous.**

on ash testing are available at **OCRRA.org**. You may also contact OCRRA's Agency Engineer, Amy Miller, at (315) 295-0743 or amiller@ocrra.org.

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

Q: Where can I get more information?

A: Additional stack test graphs and more details



2017 ANNUAL STACK TEST RESULTS

	Constituent	Average Measured Emissions ¹			Permit Limit ^c	Pass/Fail? P/F	3-Boiler Average ³	% permit limit ⁴	
		Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3					
TESTED ANNUALLY	FEDERAL	Cadmium (mg/dscm @ 7% O ₂)	< 1.7E-04	< 1.2E-04	< 2.2E-04	3.5E-02	P	1.7E-04	0.5%
		Cadmium (lb/hr)	< 2.4E-05	< 1.8E-05	< 3.2E-05	1.9E-03	P	2.5E-05	1.3%
		Carbon Monoxide (lb/hr)	7.98E-01	8.19E-01	1.14E+00	8.04E+00	P	9.19E-01	11.4%
		Dioxins/Furans (ng/dscm @ 7% O ₂)	6.2E-01	3.8E-01	4.4E-01	3.0E+01	P	4.8E-01	1.6%
		Hydrogen Chloride (ppmdv @ 7% O ₂)	2.5E+00	2.3E+00	2.3E+00	2.5E+01	P	2.4E+00	9.6%
		Hydrogen Chloride (lb/hr)	5.52E-01	5.15E-01	4.98E-01	5.24E+00	P	5.22E-01	10.0%
		Hydrogen Chloride Removal Efficiency (%)	99.6	99.7	99.7	>=95	P	99.7	-
		Lead (mg/dscm @ 7% O ₂)	2.72E-03	8.17E-04	2.53E-03	4.00E-01	P	2.02E-03	0.5%
		Lead (lb/hr)	3.89E-04	1.21E-04	3.80E-04	3.81E-02	P	2.97E-04	0.8%
		Mercury (lb/hr)	< 6E-05	< 5E-05	< 7E-05	4E-03	P	6E-05	1.5%
		Nitrogen Oxides (lb/hr)	3.54E+01	4.63E+01	3.35E+01	5.80E+01	P	3.8E+01	66.2%
		Particulates (gr/dscf @ 7% O ₂)	5.3E-04	1.5E-03	7.0E-04	1.0E-02	P	9.0E-04	9.0%
		PM ₁₀ (gr/dscf @ 7% O ₂)	6.9E-04	8.1E-04	9.7E-04	1.0E-02	P	8.2E-04	8.2%
		PM ₁₀ (lb/hr)	2.42E-01	2.75E-01	3.20E-01	3.16E+00	P	2.79E-01	8.8%
		Sulfur Dioxide (lb/hr)	1.61E+00	5.29E+00	3.98E-02	1.62E+01	P	2.31E+00	14.3%
STATE	Ammonia (ppmdv @ 7% O ₂)	2.8E+00	2.1E+00	2.6E+00	5.0E+01	P	2.5E+00	5.0%	
	Ammonia (lb/hr)	2.86E-01	2.11E-01	2.62E-01	4.88E+00	P	2.53E-01	5.2%	
	Dioxins/Furans-2,3,7,8 TCDD TEQ (ng/dscm @ 7% O ₂)	1E-02	6E-03	9E-03	4E-01	P	8E-03	2.1%	
	Dioxins/Furans-2,3,7,8 TCDD TEQ (lb/hr)	1.49E-09	9.26E-10	1.41E-09	1.29E-07	P	1.28E-09	1.0%	
	Mercury (µg/dscm @ 7% O ₂)	< 3.8E-01	< 3.7E-01	< 4.6E-01	2.8E+01	P	4.0E-01	1.4%	
	Mercury Removal Efficiency (%)	> 99.1	> 98.7	> 99.3	>=85	P	99.0	-	
	PAH (µg/dscm @ 7% O ₂)	1.4E-01	< 1.4E-01	< 1.7E-01	1.0E+00	P	1.5E-01	15.2%	
Zinc (lb/hr)	2.96E-03	1.47E-03	4.35E-03	6.45E-02	P	2.93E-03	4.5%		

NOTES:

- ¹ Based on three test runs; used for compliance with permit limit.
- ² NYSDEC Title V Permit #7-3142-00028
- ³ Average provided for informational purposes only; not used for compliance.
- ⁴ Based on 3-Boiler Average; informational only; not used for compliance.

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

FACT: When bringing materials to our trash drop off sites, you must tarp your trailer or pick up truck, or fees will apply.

Engage Students in Recycling Right this Schoolyear

Use OCRRA's curriculum-aligned, online video and game series to educate students all year

Theresa Evans, Recycling Specialist, OCRRA

Schools are the cornerstone of outstanding recycling education, not only through their curriculum, but through their recycling as well. What better place for students to observe and learn firsthand the ease and benefits of recycling, than through the eyes and actions of their teachers, custodians, administrators and friends in the classroom.

Engaging students and teachers in recycling lessons and activities can be a lot of fun while also providing a path to a greener future. OCRRA's curriculum-aligned online education series is an interactive opportunity for students to learn about recycling, waste reduction, composting, and waste-to-energy, all at their convenience online and at no charge!

Aimed at third through fifth graders, this series provides five short, professionally-produced videos; a volume of 30+ teacher-developed classroom activities; and corresponding digital games that turn recycling education into plain old fun. This program is accessible via the internet; it can run on individual computers, tablets, mobile

devices and classroom smartboards.

Teachers, take note: the content addresses NYS curriculum requirements with specific standards outlined in the "Classroom Activities" section, making lesson planning a breeze. All topics include a list of vocabulary words with full definitions to review with students, as well as pre- and post-testing questions to evaluate student knowledge. Check it out at www.ocrra.org/services/education-program/.

Student feedback of the program has been positive - the games are modeled after those that are popular with kids already, and the videos highlight local landmarks, such as the Carrier Dome, which makes the concepts tangible.

Learning about recycling, online or otherwise, is great, but seeing it in action on a daily basis is even better. All schools in Onondaga County are welcome to take advantage of OCRRA's free school recycling supplies including classroom blue bins, recycling posters, decals and more. To view the plethora of free school recycling supplies, or to sched-

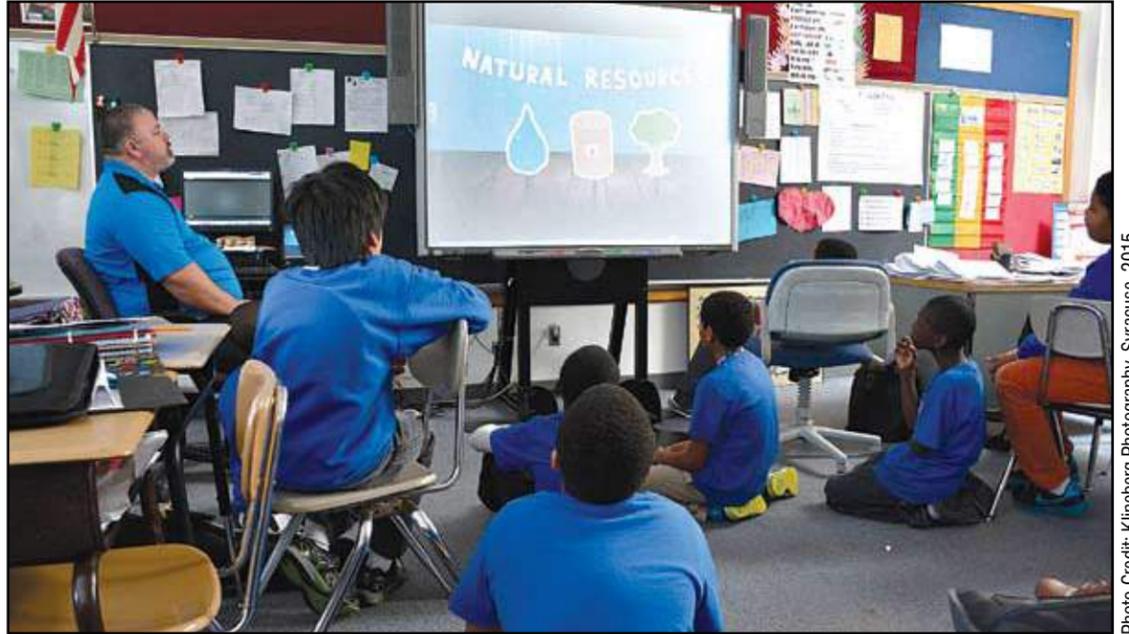


Photo Credit: Klineberg Photography, Syracuse, 2015

Students at Hughes Elementary school engage with OCRRA's environmental education video series on a classroom smartboard. The short videos, interactive games and curriculum-aligned lessons make classroom integration a snap. Download the free program the teaches kids how to responsible for their waste at www.OCRRA.org/services/education-program/.

ule an in-person visit from a knowledgeable Recycling Specialist, visit schools.OCRRA.org.

Schools that are already doing a tremendous job recycling should let OCRRA know as there are opportunities for recognition as the new school year starts. Alternatively, schools that could use a little extra help recycling should reach out. OCRRA is happy to help every step of the way, for free, just contact us today at (315) 453-2866 or tevens@ocrra.org.

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

Medication Disposal

Seven out of 10 people who abuse prescription drugs get them from friends or family members. Clean out your medicine cabinet and help protect our children as well as the environment.

Dispose of your old medicines year-round by placing them in your trash. Medications should never be put down the drain (neither toilet nor sink). OCRRA recommends disguising your medication to discourage abuse. Mix your medication with cat litter, coffee grounds or rotting food in a sealable container. All household

trash in Onondaga County is burned at high temperatures at the Waste-to-Energy Facility, which is the same end that medication meets when dropped off at collection events. In addition, you may bring old medications to designated drop off locations in Onondaga County. Visit ocrra.org/how-do-i-get-rid-of/medicine/ for details.



RECYCLE

Newspapers, Magazines, Catalogs and Softcover Books

Keep loose, don't tie.

Cardboard, Pizza, Pasta and Cereal Boxes

Flatten.

Papers, Mail, Envelopes

#1 and #2 Plastic BOTTLES

Empty and rinse.

Cans and Jars

Empty and rinse out, labels are okay.

#5 Plastic Tubs

Empty and rinse, no lids.

Save the world a little each day.

See how at

Want to know about an item not listed? Try our searchable database at OCRRA.org

FACT: Get a free blue bin from OCRRA, visit www.tinyurl.com/OCRRABluebins for a list of pick up locations in your area.

Upstate Medical University Embraces Green Efforts

Darryl Geddes, Director of Public and Media Relations, Upstate Medical University

A year after being honored by New York State with the Environmental Excellence Award, Upstate Medical University continues to embrace its sustainability efforts, including recycling, as it decreases its carbon footprint.

The sustainability effort, adopted in 2008, is named “Think Green” and it focuses on all areas of sustainability, including recycling, as well as minimizing energy use and fuel consumption.

Over the last three years, Upstate’s carbon footprint has steadily decreased; approximately 6,250 tons of greenhouse gases have been removed each year, and only carbon-free resources for electrical energy are used, where practical.

A key element of Upstate’s “Think Green” program is its food-composting efforts, which paired Upstate’s food service provider, Morrison Health-

care, and OCRRA to divert hundreds of thousands of pounds of food scraps from the waste stream.

Upstate has diverted 104,000 pounds of food scraps from the trash to OCRRA’s Amboy Compost Site. There it is combined with yard waste to be transformed into nutrient-rich soil amendment available for use by the public in gardens and landscaping.

Other highlights of Upstate’s sustainability program include:

- Installation of water filling stations to support the use of refillable water bottles;
- Building to a minimum of LEED Silver designation on all major capital projects;
- Installation of a “green roof” on the Upstate Cancer Center, which prevents 211,000 gallons of storm water from

entering the sewer system and instead collects the water in a reservoir to be used in watering plants; (Upstate participates in Onondaga County’s Save the Rain Program.)

- Installation of a solar array in Upstate’s Neuroscience Research Building, which heats 36 percent of the building’s hot water;
- Installation of electronic medical record system, which eliminates use of thousands of reams of paper. All documentation is now stored and shared electronically;
- A Bike to Work initiative;
- Use of cleaning products that are considered environmentally friendly.
- Implementation of a successful electronics and batteries recycling program. In 2013-2014,



Photo Credit: Klineberg Photography, Syracuse, 2017

A loader operator brings food scraps to a bay at the Amboy Compost Facility. Upstate is one of many local leaders that reduces their waste by sending their food scraps to OCRRA to be turned into nutrient-rich compost that improves gardens and lawns across the county and beyond.

more than six tons of batteries were recycled;

- “Last Out, Lights Out” campaign to encourage people to turn off the lights when leaving any room;
 - Introduction of Zipcars for students and staff.
- Another reason for Upstate’s success is the partnerships it has with agencies throughout the state. In addition to Onon-

daga County’s Save the Rain program, Upstate works closely with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority to ensure energy conservation measures for new construction are reviewed.

Upstate serves as a model of excellence for other local businesses and institutions.

Darryl Geddes can be reached at geddesd@upstate.edu.

Recycling Specialist Honored by Area Educators

The Central New York Association of Family and Consumer Science Educators (CNYAFCSE) recently honored OCRRA’s Theresa Evans with the Ellen Swallow Richards Award.

Evans, a recycling specialist at OCRRA who specializes in classroom education on recycling, compost and waste reduction received the award at the CNYAFCSE’s annual banquet in May.

“We commend you for your leadership in empowering our students with your educational program,” said Denise Hartman, CNYAFCSE Area Coordinator. “Your work ethic and determination are outstanding. Your passion and enthusiasm in the classrooms has been extremely rewarding.”

Congratulations, Theresa!

If you are an educator interested in having a free classroom presentation from OCRRA, contact Evans at tevens@ocrra.org or (315) 453-2866, ext. 210.



Theresa Evans,
Recycling Specialist,
OCRRA

Electronics Recycling



Need to get rid of an old TV or other electronic device? **The Salvation Army on Erie Blvd. in Syracuse** will accept working and non-working TVs and monitors of any size. TVs and monitors cannot be physically broken. They will also accept other electronics*. **Call (315) 445-0520 before dropping items off.**

Best Buy locations and Battery World will accept TVs and monitors for a charge, pending size. They will accept other electronics for free. **Call ahead for details:**

- Best Buy, Destiny USA, (315) 426-1588;
- Best Buy, DeWitt, (315) 449-1784;
- Best Buy, Liverpool, (315) 622-1395;
- Battery World, East Molloy Road, Syracuse, (315) 437-1404.

Staples locations will accept electronics, excluding TVs. **Call ahead for details:**

- Staples, Camillus, (315) 488-4071;
- Staples, Clay, (315) 715-0112;
- Staples, East Syracuse, (315) 463-8040.

*Electronics include computers, monitors, keyboards, mice or similar pointing devices, fax machines, scanners, printers, and small electronic equipment (tablets, VCRs, DVRs, portable digital music players, DVD players, digital converter boxes, cable or satellite receivers, video game consoles, etc.).



Fall 2017

Volume 26 • No. 3

This quarterly publication is brought to you by

OCRRA

100 Elwood Davis Road
North Syracuse, NY
13212-4312

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Public Information Officer

Printed on Recycled Paper

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.



From the Executive Director's Desk...

The Full Circle of Recovering Resources from Waste

A 360° view of Onondaga County's sustainable solid waste system

DERETH GLANCE, Executive Director, OCRRA

Aptly called “Part 360,” the New York State regulations that govern Solid Waste Management are undergoing a transformative overhaul. Over the past 25 years, OCRRA has built and continued to evolve a comprehensive system to properly manage each item that one may deem trash, taking a multi-pronged approach to maximize resource recovery.

While there is some treasure in the trash, much of it is costly to properly manage. Using extensive outreach and advertising, OCRRA works hard to influence how residents separate their recyclables from trash; through contractual arrangements and enforcement OCRRA ensures that recyclables end up at the sorting facility; and by advocating for extended producer responsibility and secondary market development OCRRA fosters positive change in the environmental landscape. Each step, or degree of our effort is necessary for the solid waste system to come full circle.

Onondaga County is serious about recycling. OCRRA's system is built upon the strong participation of individu-

als and businesses. Compliance with local recycling laws that work through strong education, engagement and enforcement help sustain Onondaga County's excellence. OCRRA's recycling team is in the field working with businesses, apartment complexes, schools and community groups to spread the word; provide tools like blue bins and decals; and monitor recycling efforts. In addition to using market incentives, such as providing a zero-tip fee to haulers that deliver in-county recyclables, OCRRA's enforcement officers follow up on complaints to ensure each step of the sustainable waste process is doing its part, from generators to haulers.

To be even more efficient, many haulers have split-body trucks that carry both recyclables and trash in separate compartments. If you are concerned that recyclables are not being handled properly, please call OCRRA at (315) 453-2866. Check out our recycling video that shows a split-body truck in action at www.ocrra.org/services/recycle/

Disposal remains the best option for the worst



Strong resident and business participation in curbside recycling is a cornerstone of our community's robust solid waste system. If you feel your trash and recycling are not being collected properly, get an up-close look at your hauler's truck. Many have split-body trucks that allow for one-pass collection of trash and recycling. If a close inspection still leaves you wondering if your recyclables are being recycled, contact OCRRA at (315) 453-2866 and our Enforcement Officers will investigate.

waste. Household hazardous waste like old pesticides and lead-based paint need to be disposed of properly. Residents can make a no-cost, online appointment to drop off these sorts of items and keep them from harming our air, water and health. OCRRA's recycling and toxics disposal programs are funded primarily by the fees charged for each ton of

trash that is delivered to the Waste-to-Energy Facility, as well as a grant from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Onondaga County is a flow controlled community, meaning the trash that is generated in Onondaga County is managed in Onondaga County. Your participation in the OCRRA system helps us

shape the best system to sustainably manage solid waste and recover resources as energy, compost, mulch, metal, paper, plastics and glass. Thank you for helping to save the world a little each day.



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



Andrew Radin,
Director of Recycling and
Waste Reduction, OCRRA

Radin Honored by U.S. Product Stewardship Institute

For over 16 years, OCRRA's recycling program has been led by the quiet and persistent leadership of Andrew Radin. Most recently recognized as a *Thoughtful Motivator* by the U.S. Product Stewardship Institute, Andrew has helped build a world-class recycling system in Onondaga

County, inspiring the best resource recovery solution for everything from aluminum cans to zucchini peels. Andrew empowers others and advocates effectively to advance sustainable material management locally, statewide and throughout the nation.

PLASTIC BAGS:

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





QUESTION OF THE QUARTER

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

Q: Why should I bother to recycle when my hauler throws all my recyclables into the same truck as my trash?!

A: Many haulers today send only one truck to collect both trash and recyclables. These trucks have two separate compartments, as such, recyclables and trash are not mixed together. It is easy to think things are being mixed as often the trucks will have only one opening where materials are dumped, but within the truck there is a lever system that directs trash to one side of the split-bodied truck and recyclables to the other. It can be almost impossible to tell if your hauler uses this type of vehicle unless you are right on top of the truck.

If you check out this video (<https://youtu.be/M09DzezBB5g>), at the six second mark, you can see one style of these split-bodied trucks. Some have openings to collect trash/recyclables on the back, others have them on the side.

Once you get a close look at your hauler's truck, if you feel they are still mixing your trash and recyclables together, please call OCRRA at (315) 453-2866. We have enforcement staff that investigate these situations. We'll just need to collect some information regarding your hauler, route, collection day, etc. to assist us in checking into the issue. If OCRRA discovers your hauler is improperly handling the recyclables, legal action can be taken.

Leaf Management

Burning leaves is banned in New York State. To properly manage your leaves, contact your municipality for instructions or bring your leaves to OCRRA's Amboy or Jamesville Compost Site. We'll turn them into nutrient-rich compost that helps grow healthy plants. For site hours and directions visit OCRRA.org. For more information about NYS regulations on open burning visit: www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/58519.html

For a Stellar Garden Next Spring, Winterize With Compost This Fall

OCRRA Premium Compost is available for purchase at the following fine retailers. Please call ahead to ensure they have material in stock.



NORTH SIDE OF SYRACUSE AND BEYOND:

- B'ville Supply – Baldwinsville
- Ballantyne Gardens – Liverpool
- CountryMax – Baldwinsville
- CountryMax – Cicero
- Deaton's Agway – Pulaski
- Green Acres Lawn & Garden Center – Liverpool
- Lan's Flower Farm – Clay
- Oliver B. Paine Greenhouses – Fulton
- T.J.'s Lawn Plus – Phoenix
- Village Ace Hardware – Baldwinsville

EAST SIDE OF SYRACUSE AND BEYOND:

- Aspinall's – Chittenango
- Buyea's True Value Hardware – Cazenovia
- CountryMax – DeWitt
- EverGreen Landscaping and Garden Center – Syracuse
- Green Scapes – Jamesville
- Manlius True Value Hardware – Manlius
- Syracuse Real Food Co-op – Syracuse
- Village Ace Hardware – Fayetteville
- Vollmer Farms – East Syracuse
- Wagner Farms – Rome

SOUTH SIDE OF SYRACUSE AND BEYOND:

- Carol Watson Greenhouse – LaFayette
- CountryMax – Cortland
- CountryMax – Norwich
- Green Hills Farms – Nedrow
- Lee's Feed Store – Syracuse
- Neil Casey's Farm Market – Tully
- Valley View Gardens – Cortland
- Watson Farms Landscaping & Garden Center – LaFayette

WEST SIDE OF SYRACUSE AND BEYOND:

- Maldonado Gardens – Elbridge
- Silver Springs Farm Market – Onondaga Hill
- Skaneateles Town Square Ace Hardware – Skaneateles
- Westvale Gardens – Syracuse

Mark Your Calendar

SHRED-O-RAMA
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7
 NYS Fairgrounds
 Brown Parking Lot
 8:00 am – 12 noon
 Enter opposite gates 3 & 4.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING
YEAR-ROUND
 At various local businesses.
 See Page 6 for details.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF
 Year-Round by Appointment
 ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTS & SERVICES
 6:30 am – 6:00 pm
 Register at OCRRA.org.

ALL OCRRA SITES CLOSED
NOVEMBER 23
DECEMBER 25
JANUARY 1

MAIN OFFICE CLOSED
NOVEMBER 10
NOVEMBER 23
NOVEMBER 24
DECEMBER 25
JANUARY 1

FACT: You can search OCRRA.org to find a list of local places that accept old electronics, including TVs, for recycling.