



Summer 2014 Newsletter | Volume 22 | No. 2

July is Curbside Battery Collection Month

Recycle your old alkaline batteries without traveling beyond your driveway

Andrew Radin, Director of Recycling and Waste Reduction

July has arrived, and for OCRRA, July means curbside collection of household alkaline batteries throughout Onondaga County!

To participate in this curbside collection, please place your old alkaline batteries in a special yellow battery bag (available from OCRRA by emailing info@ocrra.org or calling 453-2866). Place the full yellow battery bag **on top of your closed trash container**. Please **do not** place the battery bag in your blue bin or inside trash cans or trash bags. Your batteries will be picked up separate from your trash, by your hauler throughout the month of July.

The July curbside collection is for alkaline batteries only, including nine-volt batteries (used in smoke detectors) as well as A, AA, AAA, AAAA, C, and D size batteries. Please return button batteries (used in calculators and hearing aids) and rechargeable nickel cadmium batteries (used in cell and cordless phones) to OCRRA's collection boxes at local Wegmans supermarkets. They are not eligible for curbside collection in July.

You can also deliver alkaline, button and rechargeable batteries year round to OCRRA's Rock Cut Road Drop-Off Site in Jamesville, or to any local Wegmans. For any of these drop-off locations, a regular plastic bag will do; OCRRA prefers you do



Noah Jones of Syracuse shows how easy it is to recycle your alkaline batteries in the month of July. Just put them in a yellow bag (provided by OCRRA) and set them on top of your trash on collection day. Your hauler brings them to OCRRA for recycling throughout July. Each year, Onondaga County collects more than 80,000 pounds of batteries for recycling!

NOT use a yellow bag at these locations). OCRRA's drop off program at Wegmans is for residential batteries only; businesses can get battery disposal solutions at tinyurl.com/bizbatteries

Rechargeable batteries from items such as cell and cordless phones, laptop computers, cordless power tools, digital cameras and two-way radios are also collected on an ongoing basis by local retailers throughout Onondaga County.

Find the one located nearest to you by visiting:

www.call2recycle.org/locator/ Old car batteries are **NOT** collected by OCRRA. Please return these batteries to their place of purchase or to another dealer who sells batteries. Under New York State Law they are required to take them back for recycling.

Remember, the trash is not the place to dispose of batteries. **Button batteries and rechargeable batteries can contain hazardous substances** such as mercury, silver, zinc, nickel and cadmium, which can contaminate our environment.

Working together, our community collects over 80,000 pounds of batteries each year for recycling.

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

Blue Bin Tip:

Prevent your papers from becoming litter by weighing down your recyclables. Use two blue bins. Put papers in one and containers in another. Stack the container bin on top of the paper bin.



Cleantec

Facility Maintenance • Emergency Restoration • Janitorial

BLUE RIBBON RECYCLER.....PG 2
Cleantec stands out as a stellar business recycler in our community.



SHRED-O-RAMA.....PG 2
Join us on September 20 for another confidential document shredding soirée at NBT Stadium.



COMPOST 101PG 3
Terry Ettinger explains how easy it is to compost at home and why you should do it.



PROPANE TANKS.....PG 3
Rhoda gasses about proper reuse and recycling of propane tanks, big and small.



COMPOST IN BAGS.. PG 4
Find out where you can buy OCRRA's premium 1/4" screened compost in bags.

Confidential Paper Shredding Event was a Home Run

Residents have second opportunity to protect their identity at NBT Bank Stadium in September

Dave Nettle, Recycling Specialist

On May 10, over 1,500 residents showed up at NBT Bank Stadium to have OCRRA and its shredding partners, SMR Fibre/Confidata and Shred Solvers, destroy their confidential documents. While that sounds like a lot of people, residents were in and out in a matter of minutes. Many thanks to Onondaga County Parks and the Syracuse Chief's Management who helped make this event convenient by allowing OCRRA the use of the stadium's spacious parking lot.

If you missed the May 10 event (possibly due to a typo in our last newsletter), the good news is there is another event this fall. It happens on Saturday, September 20 from 8 a.m. to noon at NBT Bank Stadium.

As always, the shredding is free and reservations are not required to attend. Please note the event is open to *households* in Onondaga County only, and there is a limit of five bags or boxes of material. Attendees must enter from the Grant Boulevard entrance (off Hiawatha Boulevard).

If your workplace needs shredding services visit **OCRRA.org** or contact a professional shredding service, listed online or in the phone book.

OCRRA asks residents to prepare paper documents by doing the following:

- Pack only confidential documents. For example, items containing private information such as account numbers or Social Security numbers. *Junk*

mail, magazines and other items that are non-confidential are not accepted; they should be recycled in your blue bin.

- Amass your confidential documents in durable boxes, containers or paper bags. *Do not use plastic bags and do not over wrap documents in multiple bags.*
- Remove plastics (plastic bags, plastic binders, plastic folders).
- Remove laminated paper, electronic media (computer disks, CDs, DVDs, etc.) and metal. *Staples and paper clips are okay.*

Since OCRRA started hosting these Shred-O-Rama events in 2004, more than 370 tons of person-



OCRRA Recycling Operations Manager Greg Gelewski directs traffic at the May paper shredding event at NBT Bank Stadium. Over 1,500 residents destroyed their confidential documents and were in and out of the event in minutes. Mark your calendar for the next shredding event happening on **Saturday, September 20 from 8 am to noon at NBT Bank Stadium.** The event is free and reservations are not required.

al papers have been safely shredded and recycled. This has saved over 6,200 trees from being harvested in our forests. The shredded paper created at these events is

recycled into items including tissue and toilet paper. Dave Nettle can be reached at dnette@ocrra.org.



Go Green ~ Become Blue...

Cleantec staff Camille Brown, Judy Balon, Patrice Pierce, Stephanie Perry, Cindy Parella and Frank Parella receive their Blue Ribbon Recycler Certification from OCRRA's Dave Nettle (5th from left). Cleantec recycles their electronics through a certified e-waste recycler (R2), recycles fluorescent bulbs through a reputable vendor (Safety Kleen), uses recycled content paper (30%) and has refillable cleaning solution jugs. Cleantec applied (and received) the BRR distinction two times! Cleantec is a vocal advocate that encourages other businesses to become BRRs and makes their customers aware that OCRRA offers free recycling supplies and assistance to local businesses.

Become a Blue Ribbon Recycler next quarter!


Apply for certification at:
blueribbonrecycler.com

Join an elite crew of local businesses that can boast this accomplishment.

Get Rid of Your Household Toxics...

Make a Drop-Off Appointment at
OCRRA.org





SUMMER 2014
VOLUME 22 • No. 2

Printed on Recycled Paper

This quarterly publication is brought to you by OCRRA

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

KRISTEN LAWTON
Public Information Officer

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.



The Garden GURU

Terry Ettinger
Instructional Support Specialist, SUNY -ESF

How and Why You Should Compost at Home

Composting in your backyard, or your side yard, or even your front yard for that matter, isn't hard to do, it doesn't smell, and it doesn't attract critters. Here's how we've composted in our small, Syracuse backyard for more than twenty years.

All of our non-fatty kitchen scraps (essentially everything EXCEPT meat scraps, bones and cooking oils) go into a stainless steel container that we keep right next to the sink. When it's full (it weighs about four pounds, which is mostly the water in the scraps) I dump it onto our compost pile two or three times a week, even during the winter months.

The stroll from the backdoor to the compost bin and back is forty steps, takes less than a minute, and it takes another minute or

so to clean the container.

That's it.

I don't turn our compost pile, I don't add water, I really don't do anything else — except add weeds that I pull from our landscape beds and trimmings from when I dig, divide and transplant perennials, prune flowering vines, etc.

Whenever I need finished compost during the growing season, I simply dig into the bottom of the pile and pull out shovelful after shovelful (three or four wheelbarrow loads in all) of rich compost that's just a bit "heavier" than a peat moss-based potting soil.

I toss any partially composted items like sweetcorn cobs, wood twigs, etc., back onto the pile then use the compost to fill in the holes left where I've dug and di-



Terry Ettinger removes finished compost from the bottom of his fifteen year-old steel post and woven wire compost pile, which he "feeds" with food scraps and garden waste. ***Inset photo:*** With no effort, Terry's compost pile produces several wheelbarrow loads of compost each year. This home "grown" compost can be used in potted plants or spread throughout the garden to help improve soil and plant quality.

vided perennials, or simply spread it as mulch throughout our garden. In the past I've also given some compost to neighbors, but several of them now compost in their backyard, too!

With just a little bit of effort, our two-person household keeps more than 500 pounds of yard waste and kitchen scraps (which are mostly water) out of the waste stream every year. In

return for that minimal effort, we improve the soil in our gardens and grow more vigorous plants year, after year, after year!

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



Recycling Rhoda

Talks Trash – and Recycling!

Propane Tank Disposal

Dear Rhoda,
I have a few old propane tanks – you know the 20 lb. kind that screw onto a barbecue grill – how do I get rid of them?

Grillin' Gertie

Dear Grillin',
Here's the grill drill: First, reuse them by having them refilled. You can exchange empty outdoor grill tanks (the 20 pound variety only) for full tanks at any location that sells them.

If you can't reuse your propane tanks, no pressure (yup, that pun was intended). But, never throw

them in the trash. **Propane tanks should not go in the trash, nor in your blue bin for that matter.** As with most rules in life, there is an **exception** though – **small, one-pound camping propane tanks** can go in the trash, but **ONLY** if they are **EMPTY**. Be sure to use up **ALL** the contents before tossing one of those little puppies in the trash. You know, so you don't set your shorts, or anybody else's, on fire. Your trash hauler will thank you. After all, they tend not to like trash that ignites their trucks. (Oh,

and did you know these little metal tanks will be collected at the Waste-to-Energy Facility and they will ultimately be recycled? Pretty neat, right?) OCRRA's Rock Cut Road and Ley Creek Drop-Off Sites also accept empty one-pound propane tanks for recycling. These items should **NEVER** go in the blue bin (whether empty or not), the same goes for the big boys. **Propane tanks, no matter the size, cannot go in the blue bin.**

Want to recycle an old tank that can't be refilled

again? Take a gander at OCRRA's searchable database; visit **OCRRA.org** and enter "propane tank" in the "How do I get rid of..." tab that is found in the upper right corner of the page. The resulting entry will give you a list of locations that recycle propane tanks in Onondaga County.

Now, you're cookin' with gas!



Recycling Rhoda

OCRRA Premium Compost: The Best Bag for Your Buck

Theresa Mandery, Recycling Specialist

New this season, you can buy OCRRA's premium compost, by the bag, at over a dozen local retailers! OCRRA's premium compost is US Composting Council STA-certified, which means that it is rigorously tested by third party laboratories and it meets all DEC and EPA requirements (all test results are available on our website **OCRRA.org**). In short, OCRRA's compost is high-quality compost that does not vary from batch to batch.

There are many benefits to using compost in home garden and landscape projects. It enriches the soil with nutrients to make your plants grow better; it helps retain moisture so you do

not have to water as much; and it reduces the need for chemical fertilizers and pesticides, which protects our finite groundwater supply from pollutants. Additionally, your purchase helps support local jobs as OCRRA partners with Arc of Onondaga to bag the compost.

OCRRA's compost is available in bulk at our Amboy and Jamesville Compost Sites (see **OCRRA.org** for availability updates).

Residents seeking bagged compost may now purchase it at one of the partnering retail locations listed in the box below.

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



OCRRA's Premium (1/4") Compost is now available for sale, in 40 lb. bags, at over a dozen local retailers. Grow vibrant plants with this nutrient-rich compost made from local food scraps and yard wastes. Visit **OCRRA.org** for an up-to-date list of participating retailers.

OCRRA's Premium Bagged Compost is Available at:



- Aspinall's Tree Nursery and Landscaping**
8797 East Genesee Turnpike, Chittenango, NY 13037
- Ballantyne Gardens**
4825 Hopkins Road, Liverpool, NY 13088
- Buyea's True Value Hardware**
131 Albany Street, Cazenovia, NY 13035
- Gravina Gardens & Ace Hardware**
4850 Buckley Road, Liverpool, NY 13088
- Green Acres Garden Center**
8389 Oswego Road, Liverpool, NY 13088
- Green Hills Farms**
5933 South Salina Street, Syracuse, NY 13205
- Green Scapes**
6976 East Seneca Turnpike, Jamesville, NY 13078
- Lee's Feed Store**
207 Milburn Drive, Syracuse, NY 13207
- Manlius True Value Hardware**
8225 Cazenovia Road, Manlius, NY 13104
- Oliver B. Paine Greenhouses**
125 South Granby Road, Fulton, NY 13069

- Silver Spring Farm Market**
4461 West Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215
- Skaneateles Town Square Ace Hardware**
61 Fennell Street, Skaneateles, NY 13152
- Sollecito Landscaping Nursery**
4094 Howlett Hill Road, Syracuse, NY 13215
- T.J.'s Lawns Plus**
16 Hoag Drive, Phoenix, NY 13135
- The Evergreen Mart**
6278 Thompson Road, Syracuse, NY 13206
- Twin Oaks Nursery**
4107 New Court Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13206
- Vollmer Farms & Farm Market**
6576 Collamer Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057
- Watson Farms Landscaping & Garden Center**
2778 U.S. 11, LaFayette, NY 13084
- Westvale Gardens**
2400 West Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY 13219

Earth Day Volunteers Put Shine on Onondaga County

Ann Fordock, Recycling Specialist

When selecting the date for the annual litter clean-up, OCRRA thinks a lot about Mother Nature, and not just because we want to clean up the Earth...weather plays an important role in the success of the clean-up. 2014 brought some of the best weather conditions experienced in recent years, which means thousands of residents turned out to clean up litter!

Heartfelt appreciation goes out to over 5,500 volunteers (269 groups) who performed a cleanup. Because of their hard work, 59,740 pounds of litter and over 1,500 tires were brought into OCRRA (at no charge) for proper disposal. Combined, that is nearly 100,000 pounds of trash!

Let us not forget the local highway departments

who also make this event possible. Not only do most of them do their own clean ups, but they are also the collection points for the majority of the litter. Thank you to each and every highway superintendent and employee who contributed to the Earth Day Litter Cleanup this year.

Since the cleanup began in 1991, more than 2 million pounds of litter have been removed from our roads and green spaces.

Please remember that "Earth Day is everyday" and that OCRRA encourages you to pick up litter all year long. If you have any questions about how or where to organize a cleanup, please call OCRRA at 453-2866.

Ann Fordock can be reached at afordock@ocrra.org.



Many groups, including the Dairy Farmers of America, pictured here – whose group name was "Giving Unto Udders" – turned out to collect litter during the 2014 Earth Day Litter Cleanup. Close to 100,000 pounds of trash were removed from our County's roadways and green spaces during the two-day event.

Honey Do List Got You Down?



Want to dispose of debris from household remodels or clean-ups?

Visit OCRRA's Drop-Off Sites and we'll help you out.

FEES:

Cars, Mini-Vans, or SUVs,	\$10.00
Pick-Up Trucks, Vans, Single-Axle Trailers	\$25.00
Tarps are required. All untarped vehicles are charged	\$15.00

For more info on acceptable items or fees visit: www.OCRRA.org

Rock Cut Road Drop-Off Site
5808 Rock Cut Road
Jamesville, NY 13078
Just east of the Rock Cut Road exit on Rt. 481 North, across from the Waste-to-Energy Facility.
Hours:
Tuesday - Saturday: 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Ley Creek Drop-Off Site
5158 Ley Creek Drive
Liverpool, NY 13088
7th North Street, east of exit 25 from Rt. 81, across the street from the Pilot Travel Center.
Hours: Second and Fourth Saturday of each month: 8 a.m. to Noon

Household Hazardous Waste... CONQUERED BY:



Christine Himes of Syracuse

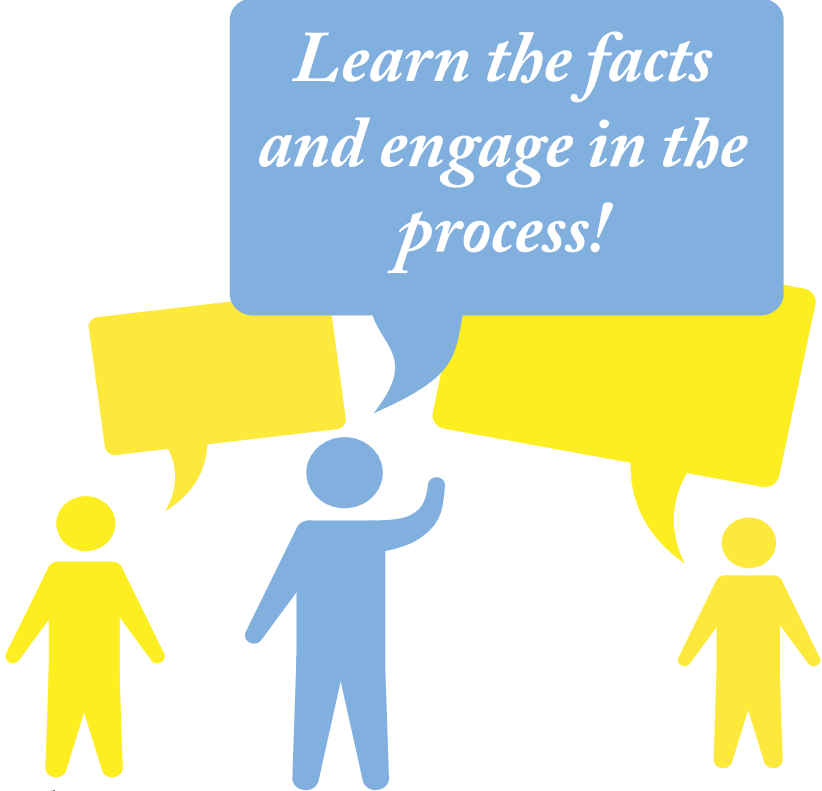
Christine Himes is OCRRA's Summer Household Hazardous Waste appointment raffle winner. Himes won a basket full of green cleaning products. Get rid of your household toxics, safely, at OCRRA's year-round drop off; make an appointment at OCRRA.org and be entered for a chance to win too! **Learn more about the program on page 7.**

Get in on the Action: Share Your Perspective

Public participation opportunities abound

Amy Miller, Agency Engineer

There are two important environmental projects being evaluated in Onondaga County. OCRRA wants your input on both projects (the Cortland-Onondaga Regional Trash Partnership proposal and Onondaga County’s Solid Waste Management Plan). Check out the boxes below to get informed and get in the loop on how to participate in the public feedback process.



1

Cortland-Onondaga Regional Trash Partnership

Onondaga County, Cortland County and OCRRA are currently exploring a partnership opportunity where, beginning in May 2015, OCRRA would transport ash from the Onondaga County Waste-to-Energy (WTE) Facility to the Cortland County Landfill for disposal and, on the return trip, OCRRA would transport Cortland County-generated waste (from a new transfer station at their Landfill) to the WTE Facility for processing.

This regional partnership would enable more efficient use of both the WTE Facility and the Landfill, reduce the ash transport distance and reduce methane generation at the Landfill. In addition, the partnership also provides increased environmental and financial sustainability of OCRRA’s and Cortland County’s trash and recycling programs. For more detailed information, please check out www.tinyurl.com/trashpartnership.

The State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) of the proposed partnership is being undertaken by Onondaga and Cortland Counties as co-lead agencies. A draft Environmental Impact State will be available for public review and comment in August/September. Public hearings will also be held in August/September to provide additional public participation opportunity. To stay informed about the SEQR process:

- 1) sign up for OCRRA’s emails. Visit **OCRRA.org** and fill out the green “E-news Subscribe” box in the left sidebar.
- 2) visit www.bartonandloguidice.com/CortlandOnondagaPartnership.htm, which focuses on the SEQR process for the proposed partnership.

2

Onondaga County Solid Waste Management Plan

OCRRA is currently updating the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan for Onondaga County. The previous plan was done in 1991 and has served the County well for more than 20 years. Consistent with other counties across the state, these original 20-year plans are being replaced with new plans, as encouraged by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Onondaga County’s new plan will chart the course for the next two decades. This includes evaluating the current programs, identifying new opportunities, projecting future changes, considering alternatives, assessing the County’s comprehensive solid waste management system for consistency with the State’s goals, identifying the best solid waste management system framework for Onondaga County, describing the critical elements and programs and laying out an implementation schedule for new priorities.

It is not enough to simply ensure that the waste generated in Onondaga County has a place to go; Onondaga County and OCRRA are committed to administering and implementing a top-performing, environmentally sound, cost-effective, financially sustainable and comprehensive system that is a model for other planning units. That, in a nutshell, is the purpose of this plan.

Please stay tuned for future opportunities to review and comment on the draft plan, likely in the July/August timeframe. Signing up for OCRRA’s emails and regularly visiting **OCRRA.org** are surefire ways to stay informed. To sign up for OCRRA’s email updates, go to **OCRRA.org** and fill out the green “E-news Subscribe” box in the left sidebar. We look forward to your input!

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

TODAY’S TRASH

WASTE-TO-ENERGY | COMPOSTING | RECYCLING



TOMORROW’S ENERGY

See how at 



From the Executive Director's desk...

Household Hazardous Waste: A Personal Perspective

Mark Donnelly, Executive Director

The phone rings. You get that call that you hope never to get, but it comes.

The loss of the matriarch of my best friend's family was difficult. She was one of the great neighborhood moms. If she told you to do something, that was the way it was going to be. Tough love in a 90 pound package! Yet, we all loved her. As Robert Frost said, "Nothing gold can stay." She was golden.

The family gathers, pays respects and shares memories. Good memories. Neighbors pitch in to bring food and love to the family. A little of the sting slowly dissipates.

So what's next? The unpleasant task of taking the memories of their childhood home apart and properly disposing of all the belongings gathered in a lifetime. Of course, there is reuse through giving keepsakes and assets to special people. And then there is recycling of textiles, metals, paper and plastics.

But what do you do with household chemicals – the pesticides, lawn care products, oil-based

paints, stains, varnishes, cleaning products and so much more? To help my good friends, I arranged for a Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off appointment through OCRRA. This was very timely as OCRRA was in the midst of changing the program from a costly, thrice per year collection, to a five day a week drop off at Environmental Products and Services of Vermont (EPSVT) on State Fair Boulevard. I was a beta tester. I'm guessing the program developers at OCRRA figured if I could do it, any one could (for the record it was easy)!

I simply went online to **OCRRA.org** and clicked the "Get Rid of Household Hazardous Waste" link in the right sidebar. The "toxics" page explained how the program works, what is acceptable, how to properly package and transport the materials and where to go.

After I read about the program, per the instructions, I did a quick inventory and divided the material into two categories, liquid and solid. Then, I

guesstimated how much there was of each category (e.g., 20 gallons of liquid and 30 pounds of solids).

I made an online appointment in a matter of minutes. Within a few days OCRRA sent me an email indicating my appointment was confirmed.

On my appointment day, I loaded my well-ventilated car with the materials (all in tightly sealed containers that were packed in a plastic lined box) and visited EPSVT, which is not far from Destiny USA. I backed my car up to the garage door where the OCRRA sign hangs, and opened my trunk. I was asked to go inside and sign off on my drop off. I didn't even have to lift the boxes out of my car! A very short time later, the technician confirmed that everything was all set; I was on my way.


Life is full of changes and challenges that impact our daily lives. OCRRA can help you address simple challenges like what to recycle in your blue bin or more complex ones like how to properly dispose of toxic materials. OCRRA's



OCRRA's free Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Program is an easy way to properly manage those dangerous products you have hanging around the house. Ron Pokrentowski of Environmental Products and Services of Vermont helps Suzanne Bagatell of Syracuse unload oil-based paint during her drop off appointment. Visit **OCRRA.org** to make your appointment online; appointments are available year-round, Monday-Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

many environmentally-conscious green services "help save the world a little each day." Take advantage of all of our services by learning about them

online at **OCRRA.org**.
Rest in peace, Mrs. G. We'll miss you.
Mark Donnelly can be reached at mdonnelly@ocrra.org.



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 list of acceptable items and for directions to the drop-off location.

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



Household Toxics

Find the items listed to the right, which are accepted as part of OCRRA's free Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off program.
See article on page 7 for program details.

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

- Antifreeze
- Brake Fluid
- Drain Cleaner
- Driveway Sealer
- Fluorescent Bulbs
- Gas
- Insecticides
- Kerosene
- Lye
- Mothballs
- Oil Based Paint
- Paint Thinner
- Pool Chemicals
- Smoke Detectors
- Weed Killer

Answer Key

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

Help Improve Bottle and Can Recycling at Public Events

Is your organization or group hosting a community event (race, fundraiser, concert, etc.)? Would you like an easy way to collect bottles and cans for recycling? Borrow special recycling units from OCRRA for FREE!

Thanks to a grant from Keep America Beautiful, OCRRA has a limited number of ClearStream recycling units available to loan interested residents on a first-come, first-served basis. Visit tinyurl.com/clearstream for details.

The OCRRA website offers detailed instructions on where and how to set up the recycling containers to attain maximum use at your event. It also provides tips

on hosting a sustainable or green event. If you have any questions, our helpful recycling specialists are available for free consultations. Just call 453-2866 or email us at info@OCRRA.org.



OCRRA loans ClearStream bottle and can recycling containers to event organizers, year-round. Contact OCRRA at 453-2866 for details.

Facebook Question of the Quarter



RECYCLING PLASTIC BOTTLE TOPS

Patrick Lane of Syracuse asks:

Q: Hey OCRRA.org, are we still supposed to remove lids from plastic bottles (water/soda bottles) when we recycle them?

A: You can now leave them on your empty plastic bottles! Improved recycling collection, processing technology and a higher demand for the polyethylene (HDPE) and polypropylene (PP) material they are made of, allows caps to be recycled now.

The best way to ensure your caps are recycled is to follow these steps:

- 1) Empty your plastic bottle
- 2) Crush it and replace the cap
- 3) Put it in your blue bin

NOTE: Metal caps can damage machinery and slow down production. Put them in your trash and they will be captured by the metal recovery system at the Waste-to-Energy Facility and recycled anyhow!

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



"So, Jack, did you use compost or chemical fertilizers?"

Mark Your Calendar

Search our disposal database



ALKALINE BATTERY COLLECTION

MONTH OF JULY

Place yellow battery bag on TOP of your trash.
(See article on page 1 for details.)

COMPOST SITES CLOSED

**JULY 4 & 5
SEPTEMBER 1**

Enjoy the Holidays!

TRANSFER STATIONS & MAIN OFFICE

CLOSED

**JULY 4
SEPTEMBER 1**

SHRED-O-RAMA

SEPTEMBER 20

NBT BANK STADIUM

8 a.m. - Noon

Enter from Grant Blvd.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF

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