



Summer 2016 Newsletter | Volume 25 | No. 2

## Recycle Alkaline Batteries at Your Curb During the Month of July

*Dave Nettle, Recycling Specialist, OCRRA*



**MERCURY THERM EVENT .....PG 2**

Properly dispose of your mercury thermometers and thermostats and get a \$10 Lowe's gift card from Covanta on Monday, August 15!



**TEXTILES .....PG 3**

Rhoda tells you what you can do with your unmentionables and a host of other textiles you thought you couldn't recycle!



**SCHOOL FOOD SCRAPS.....PG 5**

Westhill District joins list of elite schools reducing their waste through food scrap composting.



**CERTIFIED COMPOST .....PG 8**

Improve your garden with OCRRA's certified compost, available by the bag and in bulk.

Join your neighbors (or ask them to participate) in OCRRA's annual curbside battery recycling program that takes place throughout the month of July. The curbside collection is for old **alkaline batteries** only, including 9-volt batteries (commonly used in smoke detectors), as well as A through AAAA sizes, C and D batteries.

This simple curbside collection program starts with a yellow bag, the dedication to recycle and a quick walk to the end of your driveway. Working together, your neighborhood's efforts will keep alkaline batteries out of the trash and ensure their components are recycled.

Simply get a yellow bag from OCRRA, fill it with old alkaline batteries and place it on TOP of your closed garbage bag or can. The battery bag must be visible or it will be treated as trash (not the objective!) Providing it is visible on top of your garbage, your hauler will pick it up, consolidate it with the other battery bags collected along the route and deliver it to OCRRA for recycling. Please note: these batteries should NEVER go in your blue bin. They must be separated for proper recycling.

To get a yellow bag, send an email to [info@OCRRA.org](mailto:info@OCRRA.org); include your name and address in the body of the email and OCRRA will mail you a bag (while supplies last).

Have other types of batteries from your home to recycle? OCRRA of-



Abbey and Ian Nettle demonstrate how to properly prepare alkaline batteries for recycling during OCRRA's July battery collection. Recycle your batteries by filling a yellow bag from OCRRA with spent alkaline batteries and placing it on top of your closed trash can on trash day. This will ensure they are seen by your hauler and properly recycled.

fers year-round recycling of button batteries (used in cameras, calculators and hearing aids), rechargeable batteries (often used in cell and cordless phones) and alkaline batteries. They may be delivered to OCRRA's Rock Cut Road Drop-Off Site in Jamesville or to one of our collection bins at any Onondaga County Wegmans or Green Hills Market in Syracuse. Note: These batteries do not go in yellow battery bags. There are special battery preparation

instructions on the grocery store collection bins.

Both the July and year-round program are for Onondaga County residents only; businesses looking to be responsible with their batteries will find solutions at [OCRRA.org](http://OCRRA.org).

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

out Onondaga County. Find the location nearest to you by visiting [www.call2recycle.org/locator/](http://www.call2recycle.org/locator/).

Recycling batteries keeps toxic elements including mercury, silver, zinc, nickel and cadmium out of the environment, which protects humans and animals as well as our precious water sources. Thank you.

Dave Nettle can be reached at [dnette@ocrra.org](mailto:dnette@ocrra.org).



# Save the World: Turn In Your Old Mercury Therms

Get a Lowe's gift card from Covanta for recycling mercury thermometers and thermostats on August 15

Ann Fordock, Recycling Specialist, OCRRA

**WHERE:**

**Rock Cut Road Drop Off Site**  
(5808 Rock Cut Road, Jamesville)

**WHEN:**

**Monday, August 15, 2016**

Between 7:30 am and 10:30 am.

**WHY:**

Mercury can be toxic, and under certain circumstances it can have detrimental effects on human health and the environment. Removing mercury thermometers and thermostats from the trash or the sanitary sewers is of considerable benefit to the environment. To prevent the potential hazards of mercury, OCRRA and Covanta, the operator of the local Waste-to-Energy Facility, are sponsoring a special mercury thermostat and thermometer take back day on Monday, August 15!



OCRRA and Covanta employees display the mercury thermometers and thermostats collected at the 2015 Thermostat and Thermometer Event. During the 3-hour event, close to 630 mercury items were brought in, which kept more than 1,130 grams of mercury out of our environment! Do your part to "save the world a little each day" and bring your mercury therms to the August 15, 2016 event.

This free event is open to Onondaga County residents. To keep traffic moving swiftly, attendees should complete a drop off certification form beforehand and bring it with them to the event. The form can be accessed at [OCRRA.org](http://OCRRA.org), or cut out below. **No trash or recyclables will be accepted on August 15**, this event is for mercury only.

**Do you have a mercury-containing item?**

- **Thermometers** that contain mercury have **silver, metallic grey or black filling** in their tubes. If the filling is red, blue, purple, green or any other color, it is not a mercury item and is not eligible for drop off at this event. Unlike mercury thermometers, these can be thrown in the trash.
- **Thermostats** that contain mercury **have levers or dials that you must physically move** to change the temperature. If you remove the faceplate of your thermostat and see one or more glass ampoules containing a silver substance, it is a mercury thermostat. Do not remove or break the

ampoules. If your thermostat is digital / programmable, it is not eligible for drop off; it can go in the trash.

As an added bonus for keeping harmful mercury objects from the waste stream, and **during this event only, attendees will receive a \$10 gift card to Lowe's\***. Residents bringing in mercury thermometers will also receive a replacement thermometer

(mercury-free and digital).

"We are very pleased to partner with OCRRA to recognize the outstanding efforts of Onondaga County residents to remove mercury from the waste stream. It is our hope that the reward program encourages more residents to participate," says Kathleen Carroll, Covanta Onondaga client-waste solutions manager.

If you cannot make the

drop-off event, you can still bring mercury thermostats and thermometers to OCRRA's Rock Cut Road Drop Off Site year-round. A \$5 Lowe's gift card\* will be mailed to you as a reward (a non-mercury replacement thermometer will also be sent to residents that turn in one or more thermometers). The Rock Cut Road Drop Off site is open Tuesday-Saturday from 7:00 am to 2:30 pm.

Thermometers and thermostats that are broken and leaking mercury will **NOT** be accepted at the event. Follow household hazardous waste spill procedures and make a toxics disposal appointment at [OCRRA.org](http://OCRRA.org).

*\*One gift card per resident drop off, regardless of the number of mercury items turned in.*

Ann Fordock can be reached at [afordock@ocrra.org](mailto:afordock@ocrra.org).

## Mercury Therm Drop-Off Form

**Complete this form in advance.**

**Place it on your vehicle's dash on the day of the event.**

Name:

Street:

Town:  Zip Code:

Phone:

Email\*:

\*By providing your email address you are confirming that you want to be on OCRRA's email list (which keeps you up-to-date on OCRRA's services and upcoming events). You may unsubscribe at any time.

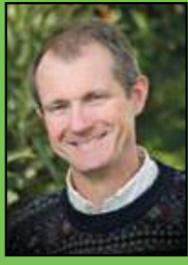
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of **THERMOMETERS** Dropped Off:

Number of **THERMOSTATS** Dropped Off:



**FACT:** Broken blue bin? Write "TRASH" on paper, tape it to the bin, and place it upside down near or on top of your trash.



# The Garden GURU

Terry Ettinger  
Instructional Support Specialist, SUNY - ESF

## Compost can be mulch – but mulch can't be compost!

Purchasing an OCRRA Plus or Premium Compost Site Pass entitles you to six cubic yards of wood mulch or three cubic yards of compost per year. Or, you can simply pay by the cubic yard without a pass.

The question is which do you want and/or need: mulch, compost or some of each? To answer this question, we need a definition for both products.

A common definition for **MULCH** is “any material applied to the soil surface that will reduce water loss from evaporation, suppress weed growth and insulate the soil from temperature extremes.”

Using that definition OCRRA's wood mulch is certainly a mulch, as you spread it over the soil surface to achieve the objectives outlined above. And, so is OCRRA's com-

post (made with local yard wastes and food scraps), as it also can be spread over the soil surface to reduce water loss, suppress weeds and insulate soil from temperature extremes.

Meanwhile, **COMPOST** is defined as “a stable, humus-like material resulting from the controlled biological decomposition of organic materials that may include kitchen scraps, tree leaves, weeds that have been pulled from a garden, etc.”

In other words, OCRRA's food waste compost is just that - compost! It can be dug into your garden, you can plant directly into raised beds made from it, and you can even use it as a potting soil as we have done in the SUNY-ESF greenhouses.

However, OCRRA's wood mulch IS NOT thoroughly decomposed, so it's



not compost. As long as there are recognizable pieces of wood, microorganisms will continue to break down the mulch, tying up nitrogen that would otherwise be available to plants in your garden and containers.

So, remember – mulch should always stay on top of the soil surface while you can grow plants directly in compost!

Terry Ettinger can be reached at [tlettinger@esf.edu](mailto:tlettinger@esf.edu)



Mulch and compost are slightly different products that have different uses; learn how to use each product and get some from OCRRA to improve your garden and landscapes!



# Recycling Rhoda

Talks Trash – and Recycling!



Recycling Textiles

Dear Rhoda,  
As I finish up spring cleaning, I've got some clothes and other cloth materials to get rid of, but I'm not sure how. I know clothing can be recycled, but what about my old sheets and towels? Or, what about the clothing that is no longer wearable because it's ripped and stained? And, that horrid handbag my mother gave me last Christmas that I've never actually liked?

Cloth Quandary in Camillus

Dear Cloth Quandary,  
Okay, I'm gonna throw some big numbers at you...

Roughly 9,000 jobs would be created across New York State if the 1.4 billion pounds of textiles (valued at over \$200 million) that we throw out each year were recycled instead. To give some perspective, that's 5% of the total trash stream that could be recycled through donation. *Insanity.*

There is so much potential to be harnessed here, people! Not only can ALL clothing be recycled (including the stuff that you think is “unwearable,” meaning items with rips, stains, missing buttons, non-function-

ing zippers, etc.), but non-clothing textiles can be recycled too! This includes items like (ugly) purses, hats, shoes, bedding, curtains, towels, stuffed animals and backpacks.

Even your underwear can be recycled. Yup, I said it. Your unmentionables can be donated and recycled. All. Day. Long.

The majority of textiles donated to local charities, are resold in the community; proceeds support churches, the Rescue Mission and Salvation Army. The remaining 35% of tex-

tiles are repurposed into industrial wiping cloths or recycled into fibers used for home insulation, carpet padding or raw material for the automotive industry.

So, why throw textiles away? You wouldn't trash a cardboard pizza box, would you? Textiles are equally recyclable, with a single exception: **cloth items can NOT go in your blue bin**, they must be donated instead (see the article on blue bin contamination on page 4 for details).

Discover where you can recycle textiles – visit

[tinyurl.com/cny-textiles](http://tinyurl.com/cny-textiles) to find a drop-off location near you (and do it right now!). Working together, we can prevent the trashing of this material, help residents in need, support the mission of many local charities and increase recycling jobs to boot.

Oh, and don't worry, donating that darling fringe purse from your mother will be our little secret...

Recycling Rhoda

# Recycling Mistakes Gone Wild: Top Two No-No's

Ann Fordock, Recycling Specialist, OCRRA

Our community loves to recycle; working together, residents place over 70 million pounds of paper items, plastic bottles, glass jars, and metal cans in their blue bins each year.

Sometimes, however, materials are put in the blue bin that do not belong there. These items become contamination in the recycling stream and there is a cost to remove them. That is why putting only acceptable items in the bin is essential to a successful recycling program.

OCRRA recently did a study of the various materials that are **mistakenly placed in the blue bin** in our community. The most abundant items are:

- 1) **plastic bags** and
- 2) **textiles**, such as clothes, shoes, and bedding.

Plastic bags and textiles can be recycled elsewhere. Plastic bags make up almost half of the unacceptable blue bin items. They should never go in the blue bin. That means **no empty plastic bags and no plastic bags filled with recyclables**; no plastic bags at all.

Even if you live at an apartment complex, do not place your plastic bag of recyclables in the recycling dumpster. All recyclables should be emptied into the bin/cart/dumpster; they should be loose, never in a plastic bag.

You can recycle clean plastic bags at almost all stores that give them out (stores of a certain size are required to take them back for recycling by law). Of course, the best solution is to use reusable bags.

## No plastic bags in the blue bin – EVER...

1) Bagged recyclables do not open up after being compacted and transported by your hauler. The recyclables stay in the bag and therefore cannot be sorted by the recycling equipment.

This means they end up as trash. Not what you intended, right? The solution is to put them in your blue bin **loose**.

Worried about recyclables blowing all over the neighborhood? OCRRA recommends putting your heavy recyclables in one bin and your lighter ones in a second bin. Then, at your curb, place the heavier bin on top of the lighter bin to prevent items from blowing away.

*Another tip: do not put your bin out if there are strong winds, simply wait until next week.*

2) Loose plastic bags wind up around equipment at the recycling facility and cause it to jam and break down. Each time this happens (which is

multiple times a day) the entire sorting facility shuts down, so thousands of bags can be cut from the equipment.

This slows down sorting and adds expense to an already costly process.

Not to mention these bags are dirty (from hanging out in blue bins with other recyclables) so they cannot be recycled; they become trash.

**Textiles**, such as clothing, bedding, and towels are the **next largest offender in the recycling bin**, comprising almost 15% of non acceptable materials.

They can be recycled at a number of local churches and charities including the Rescue Mission and Salvation Army (these two organizations alone have over 30 local drop off sites).

However, textiles should never go in your blue bin. When they do, they end up at the recycling facility and also get wrapped around the mechanical sorting equipment; eventually they too become trash.

If you donate your textiles you help fund local charities in need and help residents in our community.

65% of textiles are sold by local charities or exported as second-hand clothing. 35% of textiles are repurposed into industrial wiping cloths or recycled into



When looking at items that do not belong in the blue bin, but find their way in, we see that textiles (such as clothing, bedding and towels), as well as plastic bags make up the largest percentage of contamination. These items can be recycled, just not in the blue bin. Do your part to keep our recycling stream clean. Learn more at [OCRRA.org](http://OCRRA.org).

fibers used for home insulation, carpet padding or automotive material. Even if no one would want to wear / use your old textiles, they still have a useful life and should be recycled, just not in the blue bin. They should be donated.

While our community does a great job with recycling (less than 4% of our blue bin materials do not belong in the bin), there is still room for improvement.

Thank you for keeping plastic bags out of the recycling bin (take them back

to the grocery store) and for giving your clothes and textiles a new life by donating them to a charity for reuse or recycling.

Ann Fordock can be reached at [afordock@ocrra.org](mailto:afordock@ocrra.org).

## Record-Breaking Paper Shredding Event:

Many thanks to the 2,500+ residents that attended OCRRA's shredding event on May 7. Together, Shred Solvers and Confidata shredded more than 85,840 lbs. of confidential documents, which were recycled into new paper products including paper towels, tissues and toilet paper. In addition, participant generosity brought in enough food (924 lbs.) and monetary donations (\$5,988) for the Food Bank of CNY to distribute 18,734 meals to local recipients!

**Thank You!**



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**OCRRA**

100 Elwood Davis Road  
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KRISTEN LAWTON  
Public Information Officer

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# Reduce Your Trash: Recover Your Cafeteria Scraps

Theresa Mandery, Recycling Specialist, OCRRA

Cafeteria composting reduces school waste, increases recycling and reinforces an important environmental lesson for students each day. Thanks to the enlightened sustainability leadership of four local school districts (Fayetteville-Manlius, Jordan-Elbridge, Marcelus and Westhill), our community's food scrap recovery efforts are expanding beyond the home kitchens and into school cafeterias.

## How It Works:

Districts such as the leaders listed above, make a proactive commitment to composting and arrange for pickup of cafeteria food waste with their trash hauler. Next, OCRRA trains staff and students; teachers begin compost education in the classrooms and cafeteria infrastructure is put in place with OCRRA's guidance. Finally, all students, whether they bring or buy

lunch separate their food scraps by scraping leftovers into labeled / color-coded receptacles in their cafeteria. All food waste is then brought to

***“At Enders Road Elementary School in Manlius, cafeteria trash went from 10 bags per day before compost implementation, to a mere 2 bags of trash per day as a result of food scrap separation – that’s an 80% reduction in total trash!”***

OCRRA's award-winning Amboy Compost Facility in Camillus, where it is mixed with yard waste and turned into a nutrient-rich soil amendment that can be used to grow healthy plants throughout our community.

There are many advantages to cafeteria composting including daily hands-on environmental education for students, potential cost savings for the school district (food scraps are accepted at OCRRA's Facility at less than \$0.02 per

pound: that is less than half the cost of normal trash disposal), and most significantly, waste reduction.

At Enders Road Elementary School in Manlius, for example, cafeteria trash went from 10 bags of trash per day, to a mere 2 bags of trash per day as a result of food scrap separation – that's an 80% reduction in total trash! The Jordan-Elbridge School District enjoyed a similar result, transitioning from cafeteria trash needing to be picked up twice a week, to only once every three weeks. Those reduced trash pickups **saved the Jordan-Elbridge School District \$2,000** in the first year of their compost program.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, more food reaches landfills and waste-to-energy facilities (combustors) than any other single material in the trash. Thanks to



Walberta Park Elementary (Westhill) students separate their food scraps from their general trash and recycling during lunch. Food scraps make up the largest part of our waste stream that could be recycled. They could also be put to good use in helping plants grow... Get your school or business on board with food scrap recycling; contact OCRRA at 453-2866 to learn more today.

the leadership of these four school districts in Onondaga County, in combination with other participating institutions such as Wegmans, SUNY-Upstate and Syracuse University, Pastabilities restaurant and many others, OCRRA's Amboy Compost Facility will process over 50,000 pounds of food scraps every week, which will ultimately gen-

erate 30,000 cubic yards of high-quality compost a year!

Want to learn more about food scrap separation at lunchtime? Will your school be next? Contact OCRRA's Theresa Mandery at 453-2866, x 210 or [tmandery@ocrra.org](mailto:tmandery@ocrra.org) to get started.

Theresa Mandery can be reached at [tmandery@ocrra.org](mailto:tmandery@ocrra.org).



Go Green ~  
Become Blue...



Suburban Propane helps employees conveniently recycle common items including paper and bottles and cans, as well as specialty items such as batteries and plastic bags. Blue Ribbon Recycler/Suburban Propane employee Jenna Lawrence recycles plastic bags at a comprehensive recycling station set up in the company breakroom in Dewitt.

***Become a Blue Ribbon Recycler next quarter!***

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

Apply for certification at [www.OCRRA.org](http://www.OCRRA.org)

## Earth Day 2016

More than 7,200 volunteers, including the West Onondaga Street Alliance volunteers (pictured here) collected trash from our roadsides, streams and public spaces during OCRRA's 2016 Earth Day Litter Cleanup.

This amazing community effort brought in over 95,000 pounds of trash. In the two decades since OCRRA began the cleanup, more than 2 million pounds of litter have been removed from our community's streets and green spaces. Thank you to all the volunteers, municipal crews and OCRRA staff that made this successful event possible.



# OCRRA Garner Two Environmental Awards

Andrew Radin, Director of Recycling and Waste Reduction, OCRRA

## Greening USA Bestows Sustainability Award

Greening USA, a Syracuse-based organization that promotes the environmental and economic benefits of sustainable communities, recently presented OCRRA with a 2015 “Sustaining Our Community” Award for the Agency’s annual Earth Day Litter Cleanup program.

GreeningUSA specifically recognized the program coordinators, OCRRA’s Ann Fordock and Cheri Zajac. Fordock explained that the annual Earth Day litter collection program is one of the largest in the country; nearly 2.5 million pounds of litter have been removed from central New York streets, parks, and natural areas since the

program launched 16 years ago. Zajac credited the commitment of thousands of local volunteers from neighborhood groups, schools, businesses and civic and religious organizations who participate in the event each year, for making our community a cleaner and greener place to live.

## OCRRA Recycling Specialist Recognized as “Rising Star”

Waste360, a national trade publication, recently presented OCRRA Recycling Specialist Ann Fordock with a “40 Under 40” award. The award recognizes young professionals within the recycling and waste management industry who have made a significant contribution in their communi-

ty or company by showing vision, creativity, determination and initiative.

Fordock was specifically recognized for work on OCRRA’s Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off program, which has led to the development of an innovative year-round, Monday through Friday drop off. This model makes it easier for residents to properly dispose of toxic items. Over 4,100 residents have utilized this environmental service since the switch to the year-round drop off system in 2013 (previously, occasional special collection events were conducted).

Fordock also spearheads an annual curbside Battery Collection program and helps local apartment managers implement ef-



GreeningUSA President John Przepiora awards OCRRA Earth Day organizers Ann Fordock (center) and Cheri Zajac (right) with the 2015 “Sustaining Our Community” Award for OCRRA’s annual Earth Day Litter Cleanup program.

fective recycling programs for their residents. Visit **OCRRA.org** for details on all of these programs.

Andrew Radin can be reached at [aradin@ocrra.org](mailto:aradin@ocrra.org).



## Get Rid of Household Debris

OCRRA can help you with disposal of household remodel and clean-up debris!

### Fees:

- Cars, Mini-Vans, or SUVs, ..... \$12
- Pick-Up Trucks, Vans, Single-Axle Trailers .... \$25
- Tarps are required.
- All untarped vehicles are charged..... \$25

### 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: 7:00 am to 2:30 pm

### 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:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month:  
8 am to 12 noon

For more information on acceptable items or fees visit:  
**[www.OCRRA.org](http://www.OCRRA.org)**

## Prevent Litter – Tarp Your Loads

Kevin Spillane, Transfer Director, OCRRA

With the busy summer season underway and more people cleaning out, cleaning up, or doing-it-themselves, please remember that any materials delivered to OCRRA’s Ley Creek or Rock Cut Road Drop Off Site must be covered with a tarp when in a truck bed or on a trailer.

Untarped loads will be assessed a \$25 fee and may even be rejected entirely. OCRRA is conscientious about our environment

and knows that untarped / unsecured loads can cause dangerous debris and litter to blow out of your vehicle; in addition, vehicle tarping is a NYS Department of Transportation regulation. It is regularly enforced by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, which can lead to a fine of up to \$1,500.

So, help keep Onondaga County green, and keep the green in your pocket by remembering to tarp any loads you bring to our drop off sites.

Kevin Spillane can be reached at [kspillane@ocrra.org](mailto:kspillane@ocrra.org).



### QUESTION OF THE QUARTER

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

**Q:** Do you know how to dispose of a used fire extinguisher?

**A:** The following locations may have different preparation requirements (for example: valves must be removed and / or the extinguishers must be empty) - call in advance for details:

- 1) Ben Weitsman & Son, Solvay, 488-3171
- 2) Bodow Recycling, Syracuse, 422-2552
- 3) Chuck’s Fire Equipment, Syracuse, 422-3655
- 4) Metalico, Syracuse, 463-9292



## How Do I Get Rid of...

Each day, residents call us, email us and post questions to the OCRRA Facebook page wondering how to recycle or dispose of various items. Sometimes residents have questions outside of normal business hours. So, how do you get an answer fast? Visit **OCRRA.org** and search the “How do I get rid of...” database! This database houses tips for the recycling and disposal of hundreds of different items.

At this time of year, the following items are most frequently inquired upon:

### OIL-BASED PAINT

Remember to plan ahead when purchasing: buy only the amount of product you need so you don't have to dispose of excess later. If products are still usable, give them to someone who can use them. This waste reduction effort has the added bonus of spreading good will!

OCRRA accepts this material through our Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Program. You must make a reservation to attend, in advance. Visit **OCRRA.org** to sign up.

While OCRRA provides this service for free, in reality, it costs about \$50 per vehicle, to safely manage these materials.



### LATEX PAINT

For the beauty of the community, do not put paint cans in the trash that contain liquid paint. This creates a mess on the streets during collection and can result in fines from the NYS DEC.

#### Easy Disposal Instructions:

- 1) Remove the lid.
- 2) Expose the liquid paint to air in a well-ventilated area. Be sure to keep away from animals and children.
- 3) If there is a lot of paint, add cat litter or paint drying crystals (available at most hardware stores) to the paint. Leave the lid off and wait for the paint to be absorbed.
- 4) When the paint is dry, put the can and lid in the trash (leave the lid off the can)\*.
- 5) After your trash is delivered to OCRRA's Waste-to-Energy Facility, a magnet will capture metal paint cans for recycling!

Unlike oil-based paint, latex paint is a **non-hazardous** material, so it can go in the trash.

Latex paint is **NOT** accepted through OCRRA's Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Program.

\* Individual hauler collection processes may vary slightly. Contact your hauler directly with any questions.



### PROPANE TANKS

Large 20-pound tanks (used with full-size outdoor grills) can be refilled and reused repeatedly. Twenty pound (and larger) tanks should NEVER be tossed into the trash or blue bin.

Below is a list of businesses that take them. Each location has different tank preparation requirements (e.g. valves may need to be removed or tanks may need to be cut in half) and restrictions about what types of tanks they accept. Disposal charges may apply. Please call in advance for details:

- Ben Weitsman & Son, Solvay, 488-3171
- BJ's Wholesale Club, Clay, 622-2600; East Syracuse, 434-9100
- Bodow Recycling, Syracuse, 422-2552
- Country Propane, Central Square, 676-2978; Baldwinsville/Clay, 652-9822
- Energy Gases, East Syracuse, 446-8400
- Farmers Co-op, Baldwinsville, 635-5221
- Metalico, Syracuse, 463-9292
- Syracuse Propane King, Jamesville, 345-4982; Lakeland, 701-3349



Small, 1-pound cylinders (often used when camping) should be completely emptied and put in the trash (NOT the blue bin). Just like all other cans with contents under pressure (spray paint, WD-40, etc.), please be sure to use up all the contents before tossing them into the trash, as they may ignite.

### ELECTRONICS (TVS, COMPUTERS, ETC.)

A statewide law requires manufacturers to “take-back” unwanted electronics from households, schools and small businesses for recycling:

- Televisions
  - Computers
  - **Computer Peripherals\*** (monitors, keyboards, mice, fax machines, scanners, printers)
  - **Small Electronic Equipment\*** (tablets, VCRs, DVRs, portable digital music players, DVD players, digital converter boxes, cable or satellite receivers, video game consoles, etc.)
- \* Computer peripherals and small electronic equipment also include any cable, cord or wiring permanently affixed to or incorporated into such a product.

#### Locations with Drop Off Programs

(Fees and restrictions may apply, call in advance):

- **Staples (any location):** Accepts all electronics **except** TVs.
- **Battery World (437-1404), Salvation Army (445-0520), Best Buy (any location):** Accepts all electronics **including** TVs and CRT computer monitors.

You may also contact the manufacturer of your electronic directly to learn about their take-back program.



Our community does a great job making sure we recycle as much as possible. In fact, Onondaga County recycles 60% of its waste stream! Using the “How do I get rid of...” database is another way to expand your recycling and disposal knowledge. Search it today at **www.OCRRA.org** and get answers fast!

# Get OCRRA's Bagged Compost at the Following Local Retailers:

- Ace Village Hardware: Baldwinsville, Fayetteville, Weedsport
- Aspinall's Tree Nursery & Landscaping, Chittenango
- Ballantyne Gardens, Liverpool
- Buyea's True Value, Cazenovia
- B'ville Supply, Baldwinsville
- Carol Watson Greenhouse, Lafayette
- CountryMax Stores: Cicero, Dewitt, Cortland, Norwich, Seneca Falls
- Deaton's Agway, Pulaski
- EverGreen Landscaping & Garden Center, Syracuse
- Green Acres Garden Center, Liverpool
- Green Hills Farms, Syracuse
- Greenscapes, Jamesville
- Lan's Flower Farm, Clay
- Lee's Feed Store, Syracuse
- Maldonado Gardens, Elbridge
- Manlius True Value Hardware, Manlius
- Neil Casey's Farm Market, Tully
- Oliver B. Paine Greenhouses, Fulton
- Silver Spring Farm Market, Syracuse
- Skaneateles Town Square Ace Hardware, Skaneateles
- T.J.'s Lawns Plus, Phoenix
- Valley View Gardens, Cortland
- Vollmer Farms & Farm Market, East Syracuse
- Wagner Farms, Rome
- Watson Farms, Lafayette
- Westvale Gardens, Syracuse
- Zerrillo Gardens, East Syracuse



## Did You Know?

You can buy OCRRA's 1/4" fine screened, certified compost:

- 1) **By the bag** at over 30 local retailers (see list above), and
- 2) **By the yard** at our Amboy Compost Site (\$25 / cubic yard; we'll load it for you at no additional charge).

You can buy OCRRA's 1/2" screened, certified compost:

- 1) **By the yard** at our Amboy and Jamesville Compost Sites (\$20 / cubic yard; we'll load it for you at no additional charge), and
- 2) **With a season pass** at our Amboy and Jamesville Compost Sites (you can hand load up to 3 cubic yards of it for \$35, or have us load your vehicle with 3 cubic yards for \$50).



## There's a New Look Coming to OCRRA.org

OCRRA's website is getting a makeover!

We look forward to bringing you a newly designed website with fresh content that is easy to access on desktops, laptops, tablets, smartphones – whatever type of digital device you choose to use!

# Mark Your Calendar

<p>ALKALINE BATTERY COLLECTION</p> <p><b>MONTH OF JULY</b></p> <p>Place yellow battery bag on TOP of your trash. See article on page 1 for details.</p>	<p>COMPOST SITES CLOSED</p> <p><b>JULY 2-4 and SEPTEMBER 3-5</b></p>	<p>TRANSFER STATIONS CLOSED</p> <p><b>JULY 4 and SEPTEMBER 5</b></p>	<p>ELECTRONICS RECYCLING</p> <p><b>SATURDAY, JULY 30</b></p> <p><b>B'ville School District Complex</b></p> <p>9:30 am – 1:30 pm</p> <p>Enter from Virginia/East Oneida Sts. Contact Assemblyman Magnarelli's office for details – 428-9651.</p>	<p>SHRED-O-RAMA</p> <p><b>SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24</b></p> <p><b>NBT BANK STADIUM</b></p> <p>8:00 am – 12:00 noon</p> <p>Enter from Grant Boulevard.</p>	<p>HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF</p> <p><b>Year-Round by Appointment</b></p> <p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTS &amp; SERVICES</b></p> <p>6:30 am – 6:00 pm</p> <p>Register at OCRRA.org.</p>
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**FACT:** Pesticides & pool chemicals are accepted at our year-round Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off; register at OCRRA.org.