Ley Creek Transfer Station Closed, Residential Service Moved to Rock Cut Road

Will Wallak, Public Information Officer

OCRRA’s residential drop-off service has come full circle and now features expanded hours after moving back to Rock Cut Road Transfer Station on June 13.

It was just a few years ago that residential service relocated to Ley Creek so OCRAA could redevelop the Rock Cut Road Transfer Station commercial service. Now it’s Ley Creek’s turn to reinvent itself.

OCRRA’s Rock Cut Road residential fees are the same as they were at Ley Creek. In addition to cash and checks, credit cards are now accepted at Rock Cut Road.

Trash Disposal Flat Rates
Visit www.tinyurl.com/debrisdisposal for acceptable items.

- Cars and minivans: $15
- Pickup trucks, SUVS, vans, trailers: $30


- Untarped vehicle fee: $25

Trash By the Bag
Alternatively, residents may drop-off trash in bags. Simply purchase trash bag stickers for $3 each (10-sticker minimum purchase), online or at the site. You do not pay the vehicle entrance fee if you dispose of bags of trash using stickers.

Recycling
Residential recyclable drop-off: $2 per visit, regardless of volume. (If you bring ONLY recyclables, you do not pay the flat rate entrance fee based on vehicle type.) Visit www.tinyurl.com/RecyclingRules for acceptable items.

Food Scraps
We accept food scraps from residents who hold a current Compost Site Pass. See www.tinyurl.com/CompostSites for acceptable items or to buy a pass.

Additional Disposal Fees – Special Items
Fees charged in addition to regular disposal fees above. These charges defray the cost of properly disposing of these items in compliance with environmental regulations.

- Appliances with refrigerants (CFCs): $15 each
- Mattresses: $15 each
- Microwaves: $5 each
- Passenger tires up to 20” in diameter (Rims must be removed. No tires over 20”, no off-road or tractor tires. Limit 10 tires.): $7 each

If you ONLY drop off these special items, you do not pay the flat rate entrance fee based on vehicle type.
PaintCare Makes it Easier to Dispose of Paint

Will Wallak, Public Information Officer

New York has a new program, PaintCare www.paintcare.org, that makes recycling unwanted paints and paint products easier by offering many free drop-off locations.

PaintCare accepts interior/exterior latex and oil-based paints, primers, stains, sealers, clear coatings such as shellac and varnish, and more. See below for PaintCare accepted items. If your item is not a PaintCare accepted item, check OCRRA's household toxics accepted list here www.tinyurl.com/OCRRAtoxics to see if you need to make an OCRRA household toxics drop-off appointment.

Visit www.paintcare.org/drop-off-sites to search by zip code for a free PaintCare drop-off site near you. The PaintCare program is open to all residents and businesses in Onondaga County as well as throughout New York State. Most locations accept up to 5 gallons per visit and some locations take more. To be accepted for drop-off, paint products must be in their original containers of no larger than 5 gallons in size, must have the original manufacturer’s printed label on the container, and must be covered with a secured lid. Aerosol (spray paint), leaking, unlabeled or empty containers are not accepted.

Funding for the PaintCare program is through a small fee charged on most containers of paint that you buy in the store. Here in New York, the fee is $0.95 on a gallon can of paint.

OCRRA’s Household Toxics Drop-off program provider, Miller Environmental Group, is also a PaintCare drop-off site. If you are only dropping off PaintCare accepted products, appointments are not necessary. If you are dropping off household toxics or both household toxics and PaintCare items, please visit www.tinyurl.com/OCRRAtoxics and make an appointment.

For questions about the PaintCare program, call 1-855-PAINT09 (1-855-724-6809) or email info@paint.org.

Will Wallak can be reached at wwallak@ocrra.org.

PAINTCARE ACCEPTED ITEMS

The following are PaintCare products included in the program. When purchased, the PaintCare fee is applied. These products are accepted at no additional cost when dropped off at PaintCare’s participating drop-off sites.

- Interior and exterior architectural paints: latex, acrylic, water-based, alkyd, oil-based, enamel (including textured coatings)
- Deck coatings, floor paints (including elastomeric)
- Primers, sealers, undercoaters
- Stains
- Shellacs, lacquers, varnishes, urethanes (single component)
- Waterproofing concrete/masonry/wood sealers and repellents (not tar or bitumen-based)
- Metal coatings, rust preventatives
- Field and lawn paints

If you do not see your paint-related item listed here, contact PaintCare at 1-855-PAINT09 (1-855-724-6809) or info@paint.org.

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED

The following are non-PaintCare products and are not included in the program. When purchased, the PaintCare fee is not applied. They are not accepted at PaintCare’s participating drop-off sites.

- Paint thinners, mineral spirits, solvents
- Aerosol paints (spray cans)
- Auto and marine paints
- Art and craft paints
- Caulking compounds, epoxies, glues, adhesives
- Paint additives, colorants, tints, resins
- Wood preservatives (containing pesticides)
- Roof patch and repair
- Asphalt, tar and bitumen-based products
- 2-component coatings
- Deck cleaners
- Traffic and road marking paints
- Industrial Maintenance (IM) coatings
- Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) (shop application) paints and finishes
- Containers that are leaking or empty, and containers without the original printed manufacturer’s label are not accepted at retail drop-off sites

FACT: Pesticides & pool chemicals (and other toxics) are accepted at OCRRA’s year-round Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off.
What’s the Right Way to Get Rid of Vaping Devices?

Will Wallak, Public Information Officer

The increasing use of vaporizers or vaping devices—also known as vapes, vape pens and electronic cigarettes—has recently led to questions about their proper disposal. Can they be recycled? Are these small electronic items considered e-waste? Let’s break it down.

All vaping devices use a battery. Most are rechargeable, although single-use disposable vapes are becoming more common. Some of the devices with rechargeable batteries are removable/user replaceable. Others have a battery sealed inside the vape casing that is not meant to be removed.

So, what’s the proper way to dispose of these small battery powered devices? New York State law does not consider vaping devices to be e-waste. Thus, they are not required to be recycled, but they can be recycled. Just don’t place them in your curbside recycling bin.

If you want to recycle your vapes—both rechargeable and disposable—they can be dropped off at Bruin Recycling in Liverpool (www.bruinrecycling.com). No need to remove the battery. Alternatively, vapes can be placed in the trash. If the battery is removable, take it out and properly dispose of it separately (see OCRRA.org for details) before trashing the vape.

What about vape cartridges? All vaping devices except disposable units feature a removable cartridge that contains vaping liquid. All cartridges—whether empty, full or partially full—can be brought to a “Sharps, Needles and Drug Disposal” (SNADD) drop box location (see list here www.tinyurl.com/MedDisposalOptions). SNADD is an Onondaga County program that offers a solution for the safe disposal of household prescription and over-the-counter medications. Most SNADD drop boxes are located at police stations. If it is not convenient to dispose of your vape cartridges at a SNADD drop box, simply place them in the trash.

To find disposal options for just about any item, type it into OCRRA’s searchable database at www.tinyurl.com/recyclinglist.

Will Wallak can be reached at wwallak@ocrra.org.
Get Your Summer Gardening Done with OCRRA Compost and Mulch

How to Buy Compost and Mulch

1) Fill Your Trunk
   If you are looking for less than a cubic yard of mulch or compost and have a car, mini-van or SUV, you may self-load with the trunkload option. No site pass is needed.
   • ½” General Compost: $10 / trunkload.
   • Double Ground Wood Mulch: $5 / trunkload.

2) Buy it by the Yard
   Mulch and compost can be purchased in bulk; OCRRA will load your truck or trailer for you. There is no self-loading and no site pass is needed. A pass is only needed if you are looking to drop off material. Don’t have a truck or trailer? Check out a list of local haulers that will deliver mulch and compost to you by the yard, see list below, right.
   • ½” General Compost: $15 / cubic yard.
   • ¼” inch Premium Compost: $20 / cubic yard.
   • Double Ground Wood Mulch: $12 / cubic yard.

3) Buy Compost in Bags
   OCRRA compost is available at more than 30 retail locations (¼” Premium Compost only). Each store sets its own price point. Check page 5 for a list of retailers, which can also be found at OCRRA.org.

Visit OCRRA’s award-winning Compost Sites and help “Save the World a Little Each Day,” while also creating beautiful landscapes and gardens at home.

Get a 2022 Drop Off Pass

If you are only looking to drop off material at either the Amboy or Jamesville Compost Site you will need a 2022 Compost Site Pass. This $25 residential pass allows unlimited, year-round drop-off of yard waste and food scraps at both Compost Sites. It also comes with two free bags of ¼” premium compost.

The drop off pass is for residential use only, and is not available to commercial customers. To purchase a 2022 Compost Site Pass, visit OCRRA.org or stop by one of the Compost Sites when they are open.

Residential Mulch & Compost Haulers

The businesses listed below may be contacted to haul materials from OCRRA Compost Sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HAULER</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
<th>BASED IN</th>
<th>SINGLE TRIP MAX VOLUME*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Al/Paco</td>
<td>(315) 806-4438</td>
<td>Syracuse Serving Onondaga County</td>
<td>5 cu. yds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alan Seabrook</td>
<td>(315) 481-9677</td>
<td>Syracuse Serving Onondaga County</td>
<td>7 cu. yds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Guptill</td>
<td>(315) 345-5451</td>
<td>Nedrow</td>
<td>6 cu. yds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custom Lawn-Scapes, Inc.</td>
<td>(315) 458-4921</td>
<td>North Syracuse Serving Onondaga County</td>
<td>10 cu. yds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.M. Landscape &amp; Paving</td>
<td>(315) 630-5549</td>
<td>Baldwinsville</td>
<td>7 cu. yds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Muñozesky</td>
<td>(315) 247-4111</td>
<td>Onondaga County</td>
<td>8 cu. yds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Korthaus</td>
<td>(315) 450-7884</td>
<td>Syracuse Serving Onondaga County</td>
<td>5 cu. yds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscapes Etc. LLC</td>
<td>(315) 447-5844</td>
<td>Cazenova Serving Manlius, Jamesville, De Witt, Fayetteville, Chittenango</td>
<td>16 cu. yds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mosher’s Landscape</td>
<td>(315) 678-1431</td>
<td>Baldwinsville Serving Onondaga County</td>
<td>3 cu. yds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Firewood</td>
<td>(315) 688-8663</td>
<td>West Monroe</td>
<td>15 cu. yds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polk’s Hauling LLC</td>
<td>(315) 706-1998</td>
<td>North Syracuse Serving Onondaga County</td>
<td>5 cu. yds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical Property Enhancements</td>
<td>(315) 427-8395</td>
<td>Syracuse Serving Onondaga County</td>
<td>6 cu. yds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Cox</td>
<td>(315) 748-1560</td>
<td>Liverpool Serving Onondaga County</td>
<td>5 cu. yds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Heavier products may have lower maximum volumes for a single trip. OCRRA is neither recommending nor endorsing any of the service providers above.

FACT: Plastic berry containers go in the trash. Only plastic BOTTLES, JARS, JUGS and STACKABLE DAIRY TUBS are recyclable.
Get OCRRA Compost by the Bag!

These fine retailers set their own pricepoint for OCRRA’s high quality, 1/4” US Composting Council certified material.

North Area
- B’ville Supply – Baldwinsville
- Ballantyne Gardens – Liverpool
- CountryMax – Baldwinsville
- CountryMax – Cicero
- CountryMax – Oswego
- Deaton’s Agway – Pulaski
- Green Acres Lawn & Garden Center – Liverpool
- Pond & Rock Shop – North Syracuse
- T.J.’s Lawns Plus – Phoenix
- Village Ace Hardware – Baldwinsville

South Area
- Bob’s Ace Hardware – Syracuse
- Carol Watson’s Greenhouse – LaFayette
- CountryMax – Cortland
- CountryMax – Norwich
- Green Hills Farms – Nedrow
- Neil Casey’s Farm Market – Tully
- Valley View Gardens – Cortland
- Watson Farms Landscaping & Garden Center – LaFayette

West Area
- Maldonado Gardens – Elbridge
- Oliver’s Produce – Marcellus
- Sollecito Landscaping Nursery – Syracuse
- Town Square Ace Hardware – Skaneateles

East Area
- Aspinali’s – Chittenango
- CountryMax – DeWitt
- Green Scapes – Jamesville
- Manlius True Value Hardware – Manlius
- Spruce Ridge Landscaping & Garden Center – Cazenovia
- Syracuse Cooperative Market – Syracuse
- Village Ace Hardware – Fayetteville
- Vollmer Farms – East Syracuse
- Wagner Farms – Rome

OCRRA Compost Now Available Outside of Onondaga County

We all know that OCRRA compost is great. Now, others across Upstate New York can know just how great it is, too. Commercial sales of OCRRA’s STA certified compost are available to businesses such as landscapers, property management companies and others outside of Onondaga County through Naturcycle (www.naturcycle.com) of Plainville, NY. Naturcycle offers compost and engineered soil to commercial customers throughout the Northeastern United States. For more information, contact Naturcycle at (315) 707-8955.

Earth Day Litter Cleanup 2022 a Success!

Many thanks to everyone who participated in this year’s OCRRA Earth Day Litter Cleanup. More than 2,800 people helped clean up a little corner of their world during the event that took place on April 22 and 23. Approximately 67,500 pounds of litter was collected from Onondaga County public spaces to help beautify our community!

Did You Know?
You don’t have to wait until next Earth Day to pick up litter. Grab a bag when you head out for a walk with your dog or your kids (or yourself) and help save the world a little each day!

Visit tinyurl.com/cny-textiles for a list of locations where you can donate old clothes and accessories (textiles).
How to Recycle TVs and Other Electronics in Onondaga County

Kristen Lawton, Director of Recycling and Reduction

OCRRA cannot accept electronics at any of our locations, nor do we host collection events. However, NYS law requires manufacturers to take-back unwanted electronics from households, schools and small businesses year-round.

Electronics covered under the law include: TVs, computers, monitors and “other” electronics, such as printers, scanners, fax machines, keyboards, mice, tablets, DVRs, VCRs, DVD players, cable or satellite receivers, video game consoles, portable digital music players, digital converter boxes, small scale servers, and computer peripherals including cables, cords or wiring permanently affixed to such a product.

Use the chart below to find the best recycling option. Some options are no cost, others have a fee. Call prior to drop off for details. Alternatively, check this list for manufacturer take back programs: www.tinyurl.com/EwasteTakebacks.

Wherever you dispose of an old computer or mobile device, it is a good idea to protect your personal information so it does not fall into someone else’s hands. “Wipe” your device or destroy your hard drive before recycling your old electronics.

To stay up-to-date on electronics recycling, sign up for OCRRA’s email list. Join at OCRRA.org in the green “Join our Mailing List” section at the bottom of the page.

Kristen Lawton can be reached at klawton@ocrra.org.

### TVs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Screen Damaged:</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Salvation Army: (2433 Erie Blvd. E. location only)</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Casing Damaged:</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Will take one TV for free, per visit. No projection TVs, including rear projection TVs.</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery World:</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Call Battery World for pricing &amp; info.</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Manufacturer:</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Visit <a href="http://www.tinyurl.com/EwasteTakebacks">www.tinyurl.com/EwasteTakebacks</a> for details.</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Other E-Waste

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Battery World</th>
<th>Best Buy</th>
<th>Bruin Recycling</th>
<th>Salvation Army</th>
<th>Staples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5820 East Molloy Rd. Syracuse (315) 437-1404</td>
<td>3401 Erie Blvd. East, DeWitt (315) 449-1784</td>
<td>1001 Vine St. Liverpool (315) 410-0050</td>
<td>2433 Erie Blvd. East, Syracuse (315) 445-0520</td>
<td>3736 Milton Ave, Camillus (315) 488-4971 3 Chevy Dr. E. Syracuse (315) 463-8040 4118 State Rte. 31 Liverpool (315) 715-9112</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Monitors (Flat Screen)

| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Call for pricing. Appointment required. | Visit their website for fees. Limit 2 per household, per day. | No Charge. (No TVs). | No Charge. (No TVs). |

### Monitors (CRT - Old style)

| Yes | Yes | No | Yes |
| Call for pricing. Appointment required. | Visit their website for fees. Limit 2 per household, per day. | No Charge. (No TVs). | No Charge. (No TVs). |

### Keyboards & Mice

| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No charge. Appointment required. | No Charge. | No Charge. | No Charge. |

### Cords

| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No charge. Appointment required. | No Charge. | No Charge. | No Charge. |

### Other E-Waste

| Yes | Yes | No | Yes |
| No charge. Call to confirm acceptable items. | No charge. Visit their website for acceptable items. | No | No charge. Visit their website for acceptable items. |

Not all locations accept all e-waste listed above. Confirm what is acceptable online or by calling the locations below, as guidelines and / or pricing may have changed since this was printed.

Bathroom items including shampoo bottles, toilet paper tubes, soap boxes and body wash bottles are all recyclable.
More than 30 years ago, I began my career in waste management implementing a recycling program in Waterloo, New York as part of the State’s effort to introduce source separation laws. The signature of those early programs was the blue bin, which was first widely used in Waterloo, Canada almost a decade before the programs I started.

Most of us take curbside recycling for granted and don’t realize that a practical system had to be invented as an alternative to the mountains of waste that was being collected and mostly landfilled, when much of it could be recycled or reused and made into new containers, newspapers, and cardboard boxes. We overlook the lack of awareness and impact this wastefulness was having on our environment and the limited resources that were available to start these programs long ago.

Blue bins also became an iconic social messaging tool and were commonplace as we all began a new habit of separating out our cans, jars, plastic containers, newspapers, and boxes. Now many of us don’t even think about it, recycling and separating our waste has become so routine it’s like brushing our teeth. Blue bins were an elegant, simple solution to help us don’t even think about it, recycling and separating our waste has become so routine it’s like brushing our teeth. Blue bins were an elegant, simple solution to help us don’t even think about it, recycling and separating our waste has become so routine it’s like brushing our teeth. Blue bins were an elegant, simple solution to help us.

Blue bins have been an integral part of my career and I hate to see them go, but as we continue to recycle more and more items, and in greater quantities (Onondaga County recycles over 52% of its waste), blue bins are no longer the best tool for the job.

As a native New Yorker, born in the southern tier near Binghamton and having grown up in the Finger Lakes and Central New York, I am well aware of the challenges our weather can take on recyclables as they wait for collection in open bins at the curb. When items are wet or frozen together sorting them into separate commodities is difficult and inefficient. Even more concerning is what happens to recyclables in open containers on a windy day. This turns recyclables into litter around our neighborhoods, contributing to the pollution of our rivers, streams and lakes.

One of the solutions to these problems is for households to replace the blue bins with lidded carts, similar to the carts that many use for trash. These carts are practical, often holding two or three times the amount of recycling that a bin can (and who can’t use more capacity for recycling after buying all those Amazon items during the pandemic); they have a closed lid, keeping items inside clean and dry, while also preventing them from scattering around our neighborhood. Carts are also practical from the collection side of things. They fit into the more automated collection systems that are being implemented by haulers to reduce the number injuries and staff needed to pick up our trash and recycling.

Many communities in our area already use recycling carts and the City of Syracuse is starting the process of using them instead of the blue bins.

Carts are more expensive and OCRRA cannot supply them for the entire County. Some haulers include the cost of carts in their service fees as they sign new contracts with towns and villages in our county. For communities that would prefer to own and maintain the carts themselves, OCRRA is providing a toolkit that includes grants and financial supports that can help defray the cost of the bins. OCRRA is also providing these same communities with cart cost bid results that they can piggyback on, bid language for their own agreements or purchases, and grant writing assistance to get reimbursements from the State and other entities.

Blue bins aren’t going away just yet. This is a change that will take time. The OCRRA Board has asked that we help move the community to a more efficient means of collection and phase out blue bins over a two-to-three-year period to give everyone time to make the transition. As disappointed as I am to see this iconic symbol of our recycling programs fade into the past, I am even more excited about the new and bigger carts that will allow our community to recycle more efficiently and divert more waste, preserving our limited waste disposal capacity for decades to come.

Kevin Spillane can be reached at kspillane@ocrra.org.
New Team Members at OCRRA

OCRRA is pleased to welcome the following recent additions to its team.
Jeremiah Thompson is OCRRA’s new director of transfer operations. He came from Oswego County Solid Waste where he worked with both the transfer stations and the landfill and was responsible for the organics program and the leachate removal program. Prior to that he worked in operations management with UPS. Thompson received his bachelor’s degree in information science from SUNY Oswego.

John ‘Jack’ Connelly is OCRRA’s assistant engineer. He was most recently with Dunn and Sgro Engineering of East Syracuse and prior to that worked for the New York State Department of Transportation. Connelly received a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from SUNY Polytechnic Institute and a bachelor’s degree in physics with a concentration in engineering from SUNY Oneonta.

Order Free Recycling Supplies for Your Work, School or Apartment

Lisa Piering, Recycling Specialist

Looking for a way to make recycling easier at work, school or at your apartment building? Good news – OCRRA has free supplies available*. Just go to OCRRA.org and click “Order Supplies” in the top right corner. Pick your organization type and the items you need.

How do you know what you need? Consider your space and where people normally put trash. Make it easy by putting a recycle box next to each trash can.

OCRRA also has decals, fliers, posters and magnets that explain what can be recycled, to help coworkers, students and tenants participate. OCRRA will contact you once your order has been placed to let you know when it can be picked up at our main office (100 Elwood Davis Road, North Syracuse, 13212). For your convenience, OCRRA will have supplies bundled for you in our reception area.

OCRRA recycling supplies are a great way to increase recycling participation and accuracy.

Quantity limits apply to certain items. These materials are for businesses, school staff and apartment complex managers in Onondaga County only, not for individual residents.

Lisa Piering can be reached at lpiering@ocrra.org.