



Recycle Stretchy Film Plastics at Large Retail Stores

By Dale Cocca, Recycling Specialist

“Film plastic” is a general term that describes plastics that are very thin. There are two main types of film plastics, stretchy film plastics (those that stretch when you put your thumbs through them) and those that are not stretchy.

Stretchy film plastics can be recycled, but NOT in the blue bin. Why not? They get too dirty during collection to be recycled.

Film plastics must be clean and dry to be recycled. Not to mention, when they hit the recycling sorting facility, they cause machinery downtime. Also, they can be erroneously sorted with paper, because they are lightweight like paper, and this contaminates the paper recycling stream.

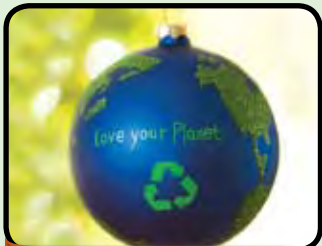
Clean, dry stretchy film plastics can be recycled by taking them back to a “plastic bag” recycling receptacle

found at large retailers in NYS, including supermarkets, home goods stores, clothing retailers, home centers, chain pharmacies and other large stores that give out plastic retail bags. Even though these collection receptacles are typically labeled as “plastic bag” recycling, they can take in all forms of **stretchy**

film plastics, providing they are clean, dry and devoid of labels.

Some film plastics cannot be returned to these stores. Check out the boxes below to tell the difference between recyclable and non-recyclable film plastics.

Dale Cocca can be reached at dcocca@ocrra.org.



HOLIDAY RECYCLING PG 2

Which holiday items go in the blue bin and which do not?



ELECTRONICS.....PG 3

Drop off old e-waste (including TVs) for recycling at multiple locations.



NO PLASTIC BAGS .. PG 4

Do not put recycling in plastic bags in your recycling container. Your items will end up as trash.



RECYCLING PLASTIC PG 4-5

Ignore the numbers. Pay attention to the shape to reduce contamination.



ROCK CUT ROAD PG 7

Find out when transfer station construction is anticipated to wrap up.



Stretchy Film Plastics (recyclable at stores)

- shopping bags
- dry cleaning bags
- bread bags
- overwrap (i.e., found around paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, etc.)
- case wrap (i.e., found around cases of water)
- newspaper bags
- zip top bags (i.e., Ziploc bags)
- air pillows from shipping packages (air removed)
- bubblewrap from shipping packages



Photo Credit: iStock.com, 2018.



Non-Stretchy Film Plastics (throw out)

All other film plastics, including ones that tear in clean lines instead of stretching; are made of multiple materials; or are woven should be thrown out.

- pre-washed salad mix bags
- candy bar wrappers
- chip bags
- floral wraps
- tarps



Exceptions to the Rule (throw out)

These “stretchy” film plastics should be thrown out:

- plastic bags with food residue or labels
- plastic bags with drawstrings
- degradable/compostable bags or film packaging, (e.g., PLA plastics – for example Wegmans produce bags are made from PLA)
- frozen food bags
- shower curtains
- six-pack rings

Find a Film Plastic Drop Off Location

Visit PlasticFilmRecycling.org to find the drop off location nearest you. Take a few bags back each time you visit a retail store to avoid stockpiling plastics in your home.



Photo Credit: iStock.com, 2018.

Reduce, Reuse and Recycle at the Holidays: Tips, Tricks and More

By Dale Cocca, Recycling Specialist

Reducing, reusing and recycling should not go on vacation at holiday time. It is very possible to reduce waste during the holiday season without coming off like Scrooge.

For instance, reducing food waste can be as simple as getting a head count and

making realistic assumptions about what people will actually eat.

And, the holidays provide ample opportunity for reuse, like donating the items that are replaced by gifts received.

When it comes to recycling, the one wish that is

best to avoid during the holidays is “wish-cycling” – which is putting things in the recycling bin that we “wish” were recyclable, but actually are not. Check out the helpful holiday tips listed below.

Dale Cocca can be reached at dcocca@ocrra.org.



Photo Credit: iStock.com, 2019.

Recycling non-metallic holiday cards is one of many ways you can help save the world a little each day during the holidays. Learn how you can reduce waste, recycle more and have a happy holiday!

Recycle It in Your Blue Bin

- Gift wrap *without* metallic finishes – fold it, don’t ball it (this helps it get sorted with papers, not containers).
- Greeting cards and envelopes *without* metallic or foil finishes.
- Gift wrap tubes.
- Cardboard boxes, flattened.
- Aluminum foil and foil baking trays – rinse and crumple up.



Reduce It

- Use reusable eating ware at gatherings – thrift stores can be a good resource for these.
- If using single-use cups, give guests a marker to label their cup to cut down on cup confusion.
- Calculate how much food is needed instead of guessing.



Reuse It

- Gift bags – these can be used over and over.
- Wrap a box’s top and bottom separately so that it can be used again without needing to be rewrapped.



Recycle It Elsewhere

- Batteries – drop off at battery kiosks at Wegmans and the bottle and can building at Green Hills Farms.
- Bubble wrap/air pouches – take back to any store with a plastic bag recycling receptacle (remove air from pouches – bubble wrap does not have to be deflated).
- Strings of lights – take back to Lowe’s or Home Depot.
- Electronics – see page 3.



Trash It

- Metallic gift wrap and cards.
- Tissue paper.
- Styrofoam.
- Single use eating ware – even cups regardless of the numbers on them.



Donate It

- Clothes – even if they have stains or tears.
- Decorations – someone else can use them.



Curbside Recycling



Newspapers, magazines, catalogs and softcover books
Keep loose. Don't tie.



Cardboard, pizza, pasta, cereal boxes, etc.
Flatten.



Papers, mail, envelopes



Milk and juice cartons
Empty and rinse.



Plastic bottles and jugs
Empty and replace cap.



Cans and jars
Empty and rinse. Labels are ok.



Plastic dairy tubs
Empty and rinse; no lids.

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.

Art Credit: Pinckney Hugo Group, Syracuse, 2018.

Electronics: Don't Throw Away Your Brick of Gold, Recycle it Instead

Dale Cocca, Recycling Specialist

Unwanted electronics are required by NYS law to be recycled – but they DO NOT go in the blue bin. Modern electronics are often made with heavy metals and toxic chemicals that are inert while hidden in their protective shells, but if exposed to the environment can cause pollution (e.g., lead, mercury, cadmium, beryllium and brominated flame retardants, etc.)

Separate from the air and water pollution that electronic waste (e-waste) can produce when improperly disposed, electronics are made with rare metals that take massive amounts of natural resources to extract from the earth and refine. This includes gold, silver, and palladium among

many others, which are used in circuitry, as well as rare earth elements used in the magnets found in microphones and speakers. And, while there are trace amounts of the aforementioned metals, there are large amounts of copper and aluminum in electronics, both of which are very energy-intensive to extract and refine. Harvesting already refined metals through e-waste recycling reduces our ecological impact!

How much gold can there possibly be in something like a mobile phone? A US Geological survey says it is about 0.034 grams. Not much, it seems. But, multiply that by 460,000 mobile phones (one for everyone

— continued on page 6

Recycle E-Waste

Electronics including TVs and Monitors (free):

- **Salvation Army** on Erie Blvd. in Syracuse accepts working / non-working TVs and monitors. TVs and monitors cannot be physically broken. Only one TV per visit. They also accept other functional electronics. Before dropping items off, call (315) 445-0520.

Electronics including TVs and Monitors (small charge):

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

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



Photo Credit: iStock.com, 2019.

Electronics EXCLUDING TVs and Monitors (free):

Staples locations and Bruin Recycling accept electronics, excluding TVs and monitors. Call ahead for details:

- **Staples, Camillus**, (315) 488-4071;
 - **Staples, Clay**, (315) 715-0112;
 - **Staples, East Syracuse**, (315) 463-8040;
 - **Bruin Recycling**, 1001 Vine Street, Liverpool, (315) 410-0050.
- Bruin Recycling has a 24/7 drop-off for electronics, excluding CRT televisions and monitors (tube style).*



Dear Rhoda,

What's the deal with batteries? It seems like everything has a battery in it these days. Can I recycle them?

– Depowered in DeWitt

Dear Depowered,

Batteries, batteries, batteries – these days it feels like it's raining batteries. Frankly, I preferred it when it was raining men back in the 80's. But, I digress. You know there was a time when batteries were simple. You had alkaline batteries and rechargeable batteries. They were either AA, AAA, C or D, and that's

how we liked it. These days, we've got those, plus, one-time-use lithium batteries, nickel metal hydride batteries, nickel-cadmium batteries, lithium-ion batteries – batteries in remotes, in watches, in phones, in computers, in power drills, in hearing aids, in bathroom scales, in smoke detectors, in old flashlights – basically, they're in everything, it seems. And, some of them contain toxic metals.

Luckily, a lot of you are wise beyond your years and know that these don't go in the blue bin NOR the trash, even when you can't remove them from the gosh

darn thing that they came in. Like that fancy electric toothbrush – don't even get me started on those pesky things! In Onondaga County, batteries are prohibited by law from going in the trash. That's right; it's true. Take that little factoid to your next potluck. You'll be the life of the party, hands down. (Okay, maybe not.)

So, here's what you do: take your dead batteries to one of OCRRA's battery collection kiosks at any of the Wegmans in Onondaga County, or the Green Hills Farms' bottle return shed. How convenient is that?! Even if you don't shop at

these places, they're probably on your way here or there, right?

The key is to make sure that the rechargeable batteries are put in the rechargeable battery part of the kiosk, and the alkalines (they'll say "alkaline" on them if they are alkaline batteries) go in the alkaline area, and the button and coin shaped batteries go in their respective area in the kiosk. It's as simple as that.

Need the 411 on what kind of battery you have? Check out www.tinyurl.com/OCRRAbattery Info and learn how to tell

the different battery types apart; see a video about battery recycling; and find a list of more than 20 locations (including Wegmans and Green Hills) where you can recycle your rechargeable batteries year-round!

And, back to that electric toothbrush – if you have a device with a battery that you can't remove, try to take off as much of the surrounding device as you can, and then drop off the part with the battery in it at one of the Wegmans or Green Hills kiosks.

Be Positive,

Recycling Rhoda

FACT: Household batteries (alkalines, button batteries and rechargeables) should never be put in your trash or blue bin.

IGNORE THE NUMBERS



Not all plastic items are recyclable. This is confusing since most plastic items have a number on the bottom that also have a recycling symbol around them...These labels do not indicate if something is recyclable, they simply indicate the TYPE of plastic an item is made of. These labels were created by the plastics industry, not the recycling industry.

OCRRA is working with others to change this labeling system, but this is a long process. In the meantime, OCRRA wants to help residents understand which types of plastic ARE recyclable.

The only plastics that are recyclable are ones that a manufacturer wants to make a new product from. Manufacturers want to make new products out of plastics that are easily / cost-effectively turned into new products. If it is cheaper for a manufacturer to use virgin materials to make a package or product, they are unlikely to go through the expense of using recycled materials to make their package or product. As a result, there is no market for these hard to recycle materials. No one wants to buy them.

That is why OCRRA is working to advance Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation, which incentivizes manufacturers to use easy to recycle materials...more on that on page 7.

The plastics that are not able to be recycled – because they cannot be turned into new products

– should NOT go in the blue bin, as more often than not, they end up getting sorted with the good recyclables. Then you have a bale of material ready for sale that is contaminated. A little contamination means the bale of material garners less money when sold. A lot of contamination means the entire bale of material gets thrown out.

OCRRA used to tell residents to recycle #1 and #2 plastic BOTTLES and #5 tubs. Many people interpreted that to mean ALL #1s and #2s and #5s were recyclable. However, not all #1s, #2s and #5s are readily recyclable. They do not ALL have resale markets. Why is that?

Plastic items are formed in various ways and depending on the process used, even if the items start out as the same type / number of plastic, the molecular structure of the plastic changes during formation and this renders the different items (made of the same plastic type, but using different processes) unable to be mixed together to be made into a new product.

This is the reason OCRRA (and many other recycling entities) switched from telling residents to pay attention to the NUMBERS on a plastic item to telling them to look at the SHAPE instead. Shape is a much better indicator of recyclability than the number on the bottom.

DO NOT BAG YOUR RECYCLABLES



Recyclables should go in your blue bin LOOSE. **Recyclables in a plastic bag end up as trash.** The recycling sorting facility is a mechanical process. Humans cannot hand open bags to free the recyclables.

Each year 2 million pounds of recyclables are thrown away because they are enclosed in bags.

Feel free to put recycling in a bag to transport it to your bin, but please empty the items into your bin (and dispose of your bag) before leaving your bin at the curb. Otherwise, your recycling efforts are completely in vain.

BLUE BIN OR NO?

Not all plastics can go in the blue bin. This visual guide shows TYPES of items you should know about. Please use this as a SHAPE guide. If you have an item that fits these general descriptions, put it in – or keep it out of – your recycling container per the instructions below.

YES

Plastic Bottles



Plastic Jugs



Plastic Jars



Plastic Dairy Tub



NO

Film Plastics*



Clamshell Containers (Trash)



Cords & Hoses (Trash)



Plastic Cups (Trash)



*Stretchy film plastics are recyclable at big box retailers, grocery stores and chain pharmacies; they simply have to be clean, dry and devoid of labels. Learn more on page 1.

PAY ATTENTION TO THE SHAPE

Plastics recycling can be confusing. Here are some quick tips to make it as simple as possible.

If a plastic item fits the SHAPE description below, it can go in the recycling bin. If it does not, it should go in the trash - unless it is a clean, dry plastic bag. (These items can be recycled at large grocery, pharmacy and retail stores.)

- **BOTTLE*** – something that has a smaller opening than base (has threads at the neck for a screw on cap) - this includes shampoo bottles, body wash bottles, dish soap bottles, ice tea bottles, etc.;
- **JUG*** – something with a handle - like a milk jug or laundry detergent bottle;
- **JAR*** – similar to the bottle description: i.e., peanut butter jar, pickle jar, mayo jar, etc.;
- **STACKABLE DAIRY TUB** – any tub that previously contained a DAIRY product like butter, yogurt, Cool Whip, sour cream, cream cheese, etc. It must be able to nest inside itself though. If it cannot be stacked inside itself, it is not recyclable. Lids are NOT recyclable.



If you have to ask too many questions when deciding if something goes in the bin vs. not, it should go in the trash to avoid contaminating the other recyclables.

When in doubt, if you cannot check it out on our website, on Facebook, or by calling OCRRA at (315) 453-2866, throw it out. Avoid wish-cycling.

*PLASTIC CAPS on bottles, jugs or jars can be recycled, but only if you screw the caps back on. If they go in the bin loose they end up as trash.

PLASTIC LIDS on dairy tubs should go in the trash.

METAL CAPS go in the trash. They will be recovered at the Waste-to-Energy Facility and recycled. Each year 10,000+ tons of metal are recycled this way!

Art Credit: Pinckney Hugo Group, Syracuse, 2018.



AVOID WISH-CYCLING

Wish-cycling, or putting items in the recycle bin that do NOT actually have a market and cannot be sold and turned into new items, hurts recycling.

Recycling markets are in a sustained depression. The markets are flooded with material. The resale value of recyclables is so low, it is more costly than ever to recycle (there is a cost to sort and market materials, but when the return is lower than these costs, entities like

OCRRA pay exorbitant fees to keep recycling going). At this time, only the cleanest of recyclables are sought after by manufacturers looking to turn them into new products. Clean recyclables are recyclables with little or no wish-cycling items mixed in.

So next time you have an item you are just not sure about, maybe it is a plastic cup, an egg carton or a



Lean Cuisine box from the freezer section, don't just throw it in the recycling thinking it will get sorted out even if it is not recyclable. It won't.

Wish-cycling contaminates our recycling. There is a high probability that bales of recyclables which are contaminated will be rejected by manufacturers and end up as trash. So, by wish-cycling, the very thing you hoped would get recycled is the thing that

causes tons of other good recyclables to be thrown out instead of recycled.

The best way to combat wish-cycling is to familiarize yourself with Onondaga County's recycling rules; cut out the ones on page 2 or download them from OCRRA.org. Share this with your friends and family and help save the world a little each day!

RECYCLING VIDEOS

See how the recycling sorting process works:
www.tinyurl.com/RecyclingSorting



Photo Credit: PincKney Hugo Group, 2015.

Get details on what should and should NOT go in your blue bin:
www.tinyurl.com/RecycleRight2019



Photo Credit: Syracuse.com, 2019.

PROPER RECYCLING PREP

These tips will help ensure your recycling is actually recycled.

- 1) **Do not bag your recycling.** Put recyclables loose in your blue bin or curbside recycling container or they will end up as trash.
- 2) **Do not crush your plastic** (bottles, jugs, jars, tubs) or metal (cans). Their 3-D nature helps optical sorters at the recycling facility get them in the correct bale.
- 3) **Keep your paper flat**, but ball up any clean aluminum foil. Same premise here, 3-D items end up with containers, while flat, light weight items get sorted as paper.
- 4) **Caps and Lids:**
 - **Metal lids on glass jars** should be thrown out (they will be recovered at the Waste-to-Energy Facility and recycled).
 - **Metal can lids** should be placed back in the food can and recycled.
 - **Plastic lids on stackable dairy tubs** should be thrown out (they are typically a different kind of plastic).
 - **Plastic caps on bottles, jugs or jars** should be put back on the item and recycled (if they are thrown in the bin loose, they will end up as trash, as anything under 2 inches in size is too small to be captured at the sorting facility).

Keep Film Plastics OUT of the Blue Bin

Plastic bags and other film plastics should NOT go in the recycling bin. They are the largest contaminant in our recycling! They are too dirty to be turned into a new product once they chum around with the other recyclables in your blue bin / the collection vehicle.

Once at the recycling facility, they wind around equipment and stop the sorting process multiple times a day. Ones that do make it through the system get sorted with paper, due to their lightweight nature; this contaminates the bales of paper and devalues them.

Recycle plastic bags and other film plastics at big box retailers, grocery stores and chain pharmacies; they must be clean, dry and devoid of labels. See page 1 for a list of film plastics that can be recycled. Visit www.tinyurl.com/filmplastics for a list of hundreds of drop off locations in our area.



Photo Credit: iStock.com, 2018.



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Electronics Recycling

continued from page 3

in Onondaga County) that would convert to about 34 lbs. of gold – more than a bar of gold. And, phones are not the only electronics out there, and gold is not the only valuable metal that is mined from the earth's crust to make electronics... **Recycle your electronics!**

However, please note that not everything that uses electricity is an electronic device. An easy rule of thumb is that electron-

ics deal with information and have circuitry to handle that information. Anything with a circuit board deals with information and is therefore considered an "electronic."

Examples of electronics that can be recycled under NYS's electronics recycling law are: **computers, monitors, wireless telephones, electronic keyboards, mice, televisions, printers, monitors, por-**

table digital music players, video cassette recorders, DVD players, Blu-ray disc players, digital video recorders, digital converter boxes, cable or satellite receivers, electronic game consoles, PDAs, facsimile machines, and photocopiers.

Other items, like a kitchen mixer, house fan, vacuum, or space heater use electricity for power – not for information, and gen-

erally do not have a circuit board. These items should be donated (if still in working order) or disposed of in the trash at the end of their useful life.

There are a number of outlets in Onondaga County that accept e-waste for recycling. See list on page 3. Call ahead to verify that they accept the e-waste that you have.

Dale Cocca can be reached at dcocca@ocrra.org.

FACT: Plastic bags do NOT go in the blue bin. Return clean/dry bags to large retail stores for recycling.



From the Executive Director's Desk...

Save Recycling by Cultivating a Circular Economy

DERETH GLANCE, Executive Director, OCRRA

Public demand for sustainable goods is strong. Consumers want their brands to be helping – not hurting our environment. Thank goodness for this demand because financial times are hard in the recycling business.

Recycling provides essential environmental benefits and it has broad support across the public spectrum from old to young and conservative to liberal. **While the public embraces recycling, they also find it confusing.** It is trash? Is it recyclable? Simple questions like these are sometimes met with complicated answers.

Why can't recycling be simple? Because it is run by multiple players – a **"Recycling Complex"** – which includes product manufacturers, sorters, scrap dealers, municipal recyclers and consumers. Today's recycling challenge is to continue recycling while we work to make the Recycling Complex more sustainable.

Transforming the Recycling Complex will not happen overnight, but technological advances have

increased the pace of progress. The Recycling Complex was built, through trial and error and with public-private partnerships over the last three decades. It needs to be rebuilt again. But, no one entity can do it alone.

Over the next several months and years, the priority is to transform a system built by producers hoping the recycling system could extract material at the products' end-of-life, to one that requires producers to be accountable for recovering the materials they put into the marketplace.

Just like sustainability requires a concerted collective effort, the responsibility for recycling is shared. **Recycling must be easy and clear for the consumer to participate.** Labels must be clear (and actually mean something); bins must be clearly identifiable, accessible and maintained; and products / packaging must be designed with ease of recovery in mind.

In OCRRA's fall newsletter, I focused on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), a policy we very

much need. EPR holds manufacturers responsible for the end-of-life recovery of their products and packages. It establishes a level playing field with recovery standards, so companies can recalibrate product and packaging designs, while continuing to differentiate their brand in the marketplace.

Currently, municipalities, charged with sanitation and public health duties, remain responsible for facilitating the infrastructures that enable recycling. End markets for recovered materials are essential for feeding recycled content to new consumer products and packaging.

The recycling recession coupled with strong public demand for sustainable recycling are key forces pressuring the realignment of the Recycling Complex.

Principles underlying this realignment include:

1) **Recycling isn't free.** Sometimes recovered materials have value that offset processing, but this is not always the case. Workers, machinery and transportation all add costs to recov-



Art Credit: iStock.com, 2019.

ery efforts. Recycling is a utility that we pay for.

2) **Design for recyclability.** All products come to the end of their useful life. As part of the circular economy, these materials can be recovered and remanufactured. That process needs to be thought of **before** products hit retail shelves.

In closing, remember every little bit helps. Sustainability is about doing things better and smarter, while reducing the impact on our shared environment.

The system need not be perfect to work. However with data, up front design, shared responsibility, and a collective focus we can incrementally transform the Recycling Complex into a more simple system. A system that keeps more and more materials recirculating in a sustainable circular economy.

Thank you for doing your part to help save the world a little each day.

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

When Will the Rock Cut Road Transfer Station Reopen?

The Rock Cut Road Transfer Station is currently closed for major construction to ensure it complies with new NYS DEC regulations, which require the majority of OCRRA operations to take place indoors.

OCRRA expects construction to be complete by 2021.

OCRRA will start serving **commercial** customers at Rock Cut Road when construction is done. Residential customers will continue to use the Ley Creek Transfer Station. The next

phase is for OCRRA to determine improvements for residential drop off.

Until future notice, all customers should use the Ley Creek Transfer Station for their trash and recycling drop off needs. It is located at 5158 Ley Creek Drive, in Liverpool, and is open Monday through Friday from 6:30 AM to 1:30 PM; Saturday from 8:00 AM to 11:30 AM. Commercial and dual-axle vehicles are only accepted Monday through Friday and on the second and fourth Sat-

urday of each month, when scales are open. The Ley Creek Transfer Station is closed on Christmas and New Year's Day.

To be notified when residential drop off plans are solidified, sign up to receive emails from OCRRA. Visit OCRRA.org and type your email address into the green "Join our Mailing List" section at the bottom of the page.

Thank you for your continued patience as OCRRA works to bring you the best drop-off experience possible.



Photo Credit: OCRRA, Jamesville, 2018.

FACT: The Ley Creek Transfer Station is open to households Monday-Friday, 6:30 am-1:30 pm and Sat, 8:00 am-11:30 am.

OCRRA Receives P2I Grant to Develop School Food Scrap Composting Video

By Sarah Howard, SUNY-ESF graduate student and grant participant

Food scraps make up 15% of Onondaga County waste (86 million pounds), the largest component of the community's trash that could be turned into a new, useful product. For several years, OCRRA has worked with local schools to capture cafeteria food scraps and turn them into compost, a nutrient-rich soil amendment that helps plants grow.

With the help of a generous grant from the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I), OCRRA aims to expand awareness of cafeteria food scrap composting through a recently developed video.

NYSP2I is sponsored by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation through the Environmental Protection fund. NYSP2I is led by the Golisano Institute for Sustainability at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), and is a partnership between RIT, Binghamton University, Cornell University and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. NYSP2I also works with the New York Manufacturing Extension Partnership to help increase deploy-



Photo Credit: OCRRA, Fayetteville, 2019.

OCRRA stands ready to assist your school in getting a cafeteria food scrap collection program going with in-school training, posters and step-by-step assistance. Contact Theresa Evans at (315) 453-2866, ext. 1210 or at tevans@ocrra.org for details.

ment and diffusion of pollution prevention solutions to support environmental sustainability and economic growth through the state.

The new video promotes school composting and teaches students, teachers and staff about the benefits of composting. Additionally, the video provides a comprehensive overview of what can and cannot be composted. It features local student actors sharing the need for composting and how to do it.

The video was produced by Pinckney Hugo Group, a Syracuse ad agency that

OCRRA works with on all their public education campaigns. The script was written by Sarah Howard, a SUNY-ESF graduate student selected to work on the grant, and the video was filmed at Fayetteville Elementary School.

Fayetteville Elementary is one of 15 schools in Onondaga County that have a cafeteria food scrap composting program in full swing.

Check out the new video on OCRRA's YouTube page at www.tinyurl.com/CafeteriaScraps and share it with your school!

Local Businesses Can Get FREE Recycling Supplies

Join the many proactive businesses in Onondaga County that increase their workplace recycling by ordering free recycling supplies from OCRRA!

Did you know that OCRRA offers a variety of instructional signage, literature, and even indoor collection receptacles like

boxes, all at no cost to businesses? Just check out business.OCRRA.org to see the items available for order. It is a smart way to keep recycling going strong at your work.

Kudos to businesses and organizations that take recycling seriously and recently ordered OCRRA's recycling materials:

- Arc of Onondaga
- Chemtrade
- Citronelle
- CNY Ophthalmology
- CNY Works
- Common Fund Mortgage
- Farchione Law
- Gerharz Equipment, Inc
- Henderson Johnson Co, Inc
- Stam Associates
- Vegan CNY



Photo Credit: OCRRA, North Syracuse, 2019.

OCRRA Recycling Specialist Dale Cocca shows off some of the free recycling supplies OCRRA offers businesses to help improve their recycling. Workplaces can order these recycling containers as well as decals and posters at www.OCRRA.org/order-supplies/.

Get Rid of Household Toxics

Learn what toxic household items OCRRA can help you properly manage (at no cost) and make an appointment here: www.tinyurl.com/OCRRAtoxics. Appointments are available M-F, 6:30 am – 6:00 pm; excluding major holidays.

Mark Your Calendar

ROCK CUT ROAD TRANSFER STATION
CLOSED FOR CONSTRUCTION
Until Further Notice
Use Ley Creek Transfer Station

ALL OCRRA SITES CLOSED
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25
&
JANUARY 1

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING
RECYCLE YEAR-ROUND
Get details on page 3

Green Up Onondaga County

For a better, greener tomorrow...

PLANT A TREE!

Annual Tree & Shrub Sale

Bare-Root Stock -

Featuring Non-Invasive and Native Species

Taking Orders Through
March 23, 2020

- ✓ Fruit Shrubs
- ✓ Conifers
- ✓ Deciduous Trees & Shrubs
- ✓ Conservation Pacs
- ✓ Bluebird & Bat Houses



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