



**RECYCLING/OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
AGENDA**

October 21, 2026

Time: 4:00 p.m. / Location: 100 Elwood Davis Rd., N. Syracuse NY

*Members: L. Hradil – Chair, D. Daley, D. Quackenbush, V. Mangan,
J. Wood, B. Sekarore, A. Fordock*

1. WM/RA Contract - ***Resolution***
2. Fluorescent Bulb Recycling - ***Resolution***
3. Battery Recycling - ***Resolution***
4. HHW Briefing – ***Update and Resolution***

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH WASTE
MANAGEMENT RECYCLE AMERICA, LLC FOR MATERIAL
RECOVERY FACILITY SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency did, pursuant to Resolution No. 2369 of January 11, 2023,, enter into a contract with Waste Management Recycle America, LLC (“WM/RA”) for material recovery facility (MRF) services for the calendar years 2023 through 2026; and

WHEREAS, WM/RA is the sole material recovery facility operating in Onondaga County; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide for continuing Material Recovery Facility Services for recyclables collected in Onondaga County pursuant to the curbside program the Agency has negotiated a new five-year service agreement to begin on January 1, 2027, with two optional one-year extensions; and

WHEREAS, although the processing fee has increased from \$91.09 per ton to \$96.00 per ton, the agreement also provides a 75% revenue share for OCRRA when the per ton blended value of the recyclables is higher than the MRF’s per ton processing fee, with an annual escalator based on Waste, Sewer, Trash CPI, capped at 4.5% per year; and

WHEREAS, the Recycling and Operations Committee of the Board of Directors has reviewed this agreement and recommends that the Agency’s Executive Director be authorized to execute the contract as outlined; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency does hereby authorize the Executive Director to execute a contract with Waste Management Recycle America, LLC, as outlined above, for the five-year period beginning January 1, 2027, and ending December 31, 2031, with two optional one-year extensions. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Resolution Adopted Date: _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Abstentions _____

Signed: _____

COMMITTEE BRIEF

Residential Recycling Material Recovery Facility Services Contract Amendment

October 21, 2026

OCRRA has contracted with Waste Management/Recycling America (WMRA or the MRF) to process and market residential recyclables since 2010. The proposed amendment extends this partnership through a new five-year agreement beginning January 1, 2027, with two optional one-year extensions.

Key terms include:

- Processing fee increases from **\$91.09 per ton in 2026 to \$96.00 per ton in 2027**, with **annual adjustments** tied to the Waste, Sewer, and Trash Consumer Price Index (CPI), **capped at 4.5% per year**.
- OCRRA costs/revenues will continue to be determined by a formula based on recyclable commodity values and MRF processing costs.
- Previously, 100% of **residue** was managed at the WTE Facility. Now residue deliveries to WTE will be prioritized in the first quarter of the year, when MSW tonnages are lower and WTE capacity is less utilized. Up to 30% of facility residue may be managed at a WM landfill throughout the rest of the year (~1,000 tons at current volumes).
- OCRRA will receive a mutually agreeable, monthly credit for transporting non-OCRRA **glass** from the MRF to Madison County Landfill for beneficial use. The MRF may manage all glass in a different manner if a more favorable economic arrangement is determined agreeable to both parties.
- The agreement restores **annual public education** funding to OCRRA for efforts aimed at increasing recycling and reducing contamination. The outreach topic will be mutually agreed upon and equal \$10,000 per year.

Fiscal Impact

The agreement increases the processing fee by \$4.91 per ton, with future annual adjustments capped at 4.5%. Actual net program costs will continue to vary based on recycling tonnage, commodity values, processing costs, residue disposal costs/revenues, and glass management.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve WMRA contract amendment establishing a five-year agreement, with two optional one-year extensions, effective January 1, 2027.

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE
RECYCLING SERVICE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY
AND
WM RECYCLE AMERICA, L.L.C.**

THIS FIRST AMENDMENT ("First Amendment") to the Recycling Service Agreement dated January 20, 2023 (the "Agreement") is made and entered into effective as of January 1, 2027 by and between Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency ("Customer") and WM Recycle America, L.L.C. ("WMRA" or "Company").

WHEREAS, Customer and WMRA entered into the Agreement in which Customer agreed to provide to WMRA and WMRA agreed to accept from Customer Customer's recyclable materials as defined in the Agreement ("Recyclables"), which Agreement had a term of four (4) years commencing January 1, 2023 and provided in Section 1 of the Agreement that the Agreement may renew thereafter for two (2) additional terms of one (1) year each upon the written approval of both parties; and

WHEREAS, Customer and WMRA wish to amend the Agreement to update the sections noted below.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties, for themselves, successors and assigns, in consideration of their respective undertakings and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, hereby agree to the following:

1. The term of the Agreement is extended for five (5) years commencing on January 1, 2027 ("Effective Date") and terminating on December 31, 2031. The Agreement may renew thereafter for two (2) additional terms of one (1) year each ("Renewal Term") upon mutual written agreement of the parties not less than ninety (90) days prior to the end of the then-expiring term.
2. EXHIBIT A to the Agreement is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the attached EXHIBIT A.
3. EXHIBIT B, 3. Charges (a) and (b) are hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the language below.

3. CHARGES

- a. Customer shall pay a processing fee for each delivered ton of material ("Processing Fee"). The initial Processing Fee is \$96.00 per ton.
 - b. The Processing Fee and Residue Charge will be increased on each anniversary of the Effective Date of this Agreement (each, the "Anniversary Date") by an amount equal to any increase in the applicable CPI as calculated below, provided, however, that the increase shall not exceed four and a half percent (4.5%). Such adjustment will be effective on such Anniversary Date and shall be recalculated and effective each Anniversary Date thereafter. The increase to the CPI will be based on the percentage increase in the CPI for the twelve (12) month period ending one month prior to the Anniversary Date. "CPI" means the Consumer Price Index-All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), Water, Sewer, and Trash Collection (WST), (Not Seasonally Adjusted, 12-month rolling average) as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (1982-1984=100). In the event this CPI is no longer viable or no longer reflective of consumer prices in the applicable geographic region, another consumer pricing index or method of adjustment may be used as a replacement for the CPI, subject to the mutual agreement of the parties. Failure by a party to submit such CPI price adjustment shall not preclude the retroactive implementation of such adjustment as of the Anniversary Date. In the event the CPI decreases in a given year, future rate increases shall be based on the last CPI value that resulted in a rate increase.
4. WMRA shall dispose of residue at the Customer's Waste-to-Energy facility. Notwithstanding the foregoing, WMRA may bale and dispose of up to thirty percent (30%) of Company-generated annual residue (current estimate is one thousand (1,000) tons per year) to WM landfills to improve production efficiency at the WMRA recycling facility. WMRA shall use commercially reasonable efforts to maximize residue deliveries to the Customer's Waste-to-Energy facility during the first quarter of each year, except when WMRA's recycling facility requires residue baling and disposal to prevent production shutdown.
 5. At WMRA's direction, Customer may transport and manage glass generated at the WMRA recycling facility, including both Customer and non-Customer glass, where such arrangement provides favorable economics

to the parties. Customer will receive a per-ton credit on its monthly invoice at the agreed rate for each ton of non-Customer glass managed by Customer on behalf of WMRA. Upon execution of this amendment, WMRA shall provide Customer a one-time credit of \$16,725 for the management of non-customer glass that took place in 2026.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, WMRA reserves the right to modify or discontinue this arrangement for non-Customer glass for any reason, and WMRA will assume management of the non-Customer glass. WMRA and OCRRA may mutually agree to discontinue this arrangement for Customer glass and WMRA may manage all or any portion of the glass through an alternative outlet or processing method that provides comparable or more favorable economics to both parties. It is the parties' intention that any alternative outlet is not landfilling, unless done so under a beneficial use determination.

6. Company will provide funding to Customer on an annual basis in the sum of \$10,000 per year, for recycling education to increase recycling volume and reduce residue in Customer's service. Company will pre-pay Customer, in lump sum, at the start of each calendar year for the coming year's subsequent educational efforts on a topic of mutual agreement. Any increases to the annual education funding amount must be approved by letter agreement, upon mutual agreement of both parties.
7. General Provisions
 - (a) Except as amended as expressly provided above, the Agreement is hereby ratified and reaffirmed and is in full force and effect in accordance with its original terms, conditions and provisions. For the avoidance of doubt, until the Effective Date, the Agreement existing prior to the Effective Date shall continue to control.
 - (b) Should any conflict exist between the terms of the First Amendment and the Agreement, the First Amendment shall govern and control.
 - (c) This First Amendment shall be effective January 1, 2027.
 - (d) This First Amendment may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, and all such counterparts together shall constitute one and the same First Amendment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this First Amendment to be executed by their duly authorized representatives as of the date provided above.

ONONDAGA COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY

WM RECYCLE AMERICA, L.L.C.

By: _____

By: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

EXHIBIT A
SINGLE STREAM SPECIFICATIONS

RECYCLABLE MATERIALS must be dry, loose (not bagged), unshredded, empty, and include ONLY the following:

Aluminum cans	Newspaper
PET plastic #1 bottles, cold beverage cups, , etc.	Mail
HDPE plastic #2 bottles, cold beverage cups, jars, jugs, etc.	Uncoated paperboard (ex. cereal boxes; food and snack boxes)
PP plastic #5 cold beverage cups, tubs, , etc.	Uncoated printing, writing and office paper
Steel and tin cans	Old corrugated containers/cardboard (uncoated) (ex. moving boxes, pizza boxes)
Glass food and beverage containers – any color	Magazines, glossy inserts and pamphlets
Paper cups - empty	

NON-RECYCLABLES include, but are not limited to the following:

Plastic bags and bagged materials (even if containing Recyclables)	Microwavable trays
Porcelain and ceramics	Mirrors, window or auto glass
Light bulbs	Coated cardboard
Soiled paper, including paper plates and cups	Plastics not listed above including but not limited to those with symbols #3, #4, #6, #7 and unnumbered plastics, including utensils
Expanded polystyrene	Coat hangers
Glass and metal cookware/bakeware	Household appliances and electronics
Hoses, cords, wires	Yard waste, construction debris, and wood
Flexible plastic or film packaging and multi-laminated materials	Needles, syringes, IV bags or other medical supplies
Food waste and liquids, containers containing such items	Textiles, cloth, or any fabric (bedding, pillows, sheets, etc.)
Excluded Materials or containers which contained Excluded Materials	Napkins, paper towels, tissue and paper plates
Any Recyclables less than 4" in size in any dimension	Propane tanks, fuel canisters
Batteries	

DELIVERY SPECIFICATIONS:

Material delivered by or on behalf of Customer may not contain more than ten percent (10%) Non-Recyclables and may not contain any Excluded Materials. It shall be the Company's responsibility to refuse to accept delivery of Recyclables that contains more than ten percent (10%) Non-Recyclables or which contains Excluded Materials. In such an instance, Company should immediately provide Customer with a telephone or email courtesy notice of any such refusal and at Customer's request hold the materials for no less than one (1) business day, to allow Customer to examine any such load.

Recyclable Materials specifically exclude any waste tires, radioactive, volatile, corrosive, flammable, explosive, biomedical, infectious, bio-hazardous, regulated medical or hazardous waste, toxic substance or material, as defined by, characterized or listed under applicable federal, state, or local laws or regulations, or chemical or other properties that are deleterious or capable of causing material damage to any part of Company's property, its personnel or the public or materially impair the strength or the durability of the Company's structures or equipment, or any materials containing information (in hard copy or electronic format, or otherwise) which information is protected or regulated under any local, state or federal privacy or data security laws, including, but not limited to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, as amended, or other regulations or ordinances or other waste not approved in writing by Company (collectively, "Excluded Materials").

**RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE OF
PREPAID FLUORESCENT BULB SHIPPING BOXES
AND RECYCLING SERVICES FOR FY2027**

WHEREAS, the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency conducts a program for the collection of fluorescent bulbs in conjunction with local hardware stores; and

WHEREAS, in 2025 the Agency put out a request for quotes pursuant to the Agency's Procurement Policy for the purchase of prepaid shipping boxes and the services to recycle household fluorescent bulbs for the fiscal year 2026; and

WHEREAS, EverLights, Inc. of Chicago, IL was the lowest quote, and selected vendor, for this service at a cost of \$112 per box, along with an agreement to three one-year extensions with an increase of 3% per year; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the agreement in 2027 EverLights, Inc. of Chicago, IL would then provide services at \$115.36 per box; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency hereby authorizes its Executive Director to enter into an agreement for household fluorescent bulb recycling services for 2027 with EverLights, Inc. of Chicago, IL at a cost of \$115.36 per box, with a total not to exceed cost of \$25,000 through December 31, 2027. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Resolution Adopted Date: _____

Vote: Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstain: _____

Signed: _____

COMMITTEE BRIEF

Residential Fluorescent Bulb Collection Program: Prepaid Shipping Boxes and Recycling Services

October 21, 2026

OCRRA has offered residential fluorescent bulb recycling in partnership with local hardware stores since 2007.

Currently, nine participating stores accept 2-foot, 4-foot, U-shaped, circular and CFL bulbs. This allows residents to safely recycle mercury-containing bulbs rather than dispose of them in the trash.

OCRRA supplies hardware stores with bulb recycling boxes that include prepaid shipping. When a box is full, it is collected by FedEx and shipped to the recycler with ease. Hardware stores request new boxes as needed from OCRRA and the cycle begins again. OCRRA staff provide training to stores to help them pack boxes efficiently.



Some examples of the types of fluorescent bulbs that are collected from households through OCRRA's partnership with area hardware stores, making drop off convenient for Onondaga County residents.

Over the past five years, participating hardware stores have used 150 to 225 boxes annually.

Following a request for quotes sent to 19 vendors, with 4 respondents, EverLights, Inc., a certified MWBE, was selected based on lowest pricing for 2026 services. Their quote provided for three one-year extensions with a 3% annual increase.

OCRRA recommends exercising the first extension for 2027, increasing the cost from \$112.00 to \$115.36 per box.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the first one-year extension with EverLights, Inc. to provide prepaid boxes for the residential fluorescent bulb collection program, with a per box cost of \$115.36 and a not to exceed expenditure of \$25,000, from January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR SINGLE-USE
BATTERY RECYCLING SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency collects and manages household batteries dropped off at receptacles located at area retail stores and community locations; and

WHEREAS, the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency put out a request for quotes (RFQ) pursuant to the Agency's Procurement Policy for recycling of single-use household batteries, including single-use alkaline, lithium metal, and button/coin batteries; and

WHEREAS, NLR, Inc. of East Windsor, CT was the lowest quote for single-use battery recycling, based on the Agency's forecasted chemistry composition at a cost of \$0.45 per pound for alkaline batteries and \$2.91 per pound for lithium metal, button and coin batteries; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency hereby authorizes its Executive Director to enter a one-year agreement for household, single-use battery recycling services from NLR, Inc. for \$0.45 per pound for alkaline batteries and \$2.91 per pound for lithium metal and button and coin batteries, for an estimated annual total of \$35,000. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Resolution Adopted Date: _____

Vote: **Ayes** _____ **Nays** _____ **Abstentions** _____

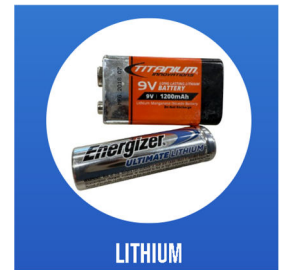
Signed: _____



COMMITTEE BRIEF

Single-Use Battery Recycling Services

October 21, 2026



OCRRA has battery drop off kiosks at area grocery stores, including Wegmans, and community centers to make battery recycling convenient for residents.

OCRRA solicits quotes for battery recycling services for the batteries collected at these locations. The 2026 quote request was sent to 16 vendors; 4 vendors submitted bids.

The vendor offering the lowest costs based on the battery chemistries that OCRRA typically receives is NLR, Inc. They are our current vendor, and they have provided excellent and timely customer service over the course of our contract.

NLR has also agreed to three, one-year contract renewals at their proposed 2027 prices, should OCRRA want to continue the 2027 agreement for future years at the same price.

Based on historical data and the scaling back of alkaline battery collection in 2027, OCRRA anticipates recycling 30,000 pounds of alkaline batteries and 6,000 pounds of lithium single-use batteries including cylindrical, button, and coin styles.

Vendor Per Pound Quotes by Battery Chemistry

	Alkaline / lb.	Lithium Single Use / lb.	Button/Coin / lb.
E360	\$ 0.43	\$ 2.98	\$ 5.40
Ewaste+	\$ 0.44	\$ 8.25	\$ 7.15
NLR	\$ 0.45	\$ 2.91	\$ 2.91
Vesco	\$ 0.52	\$ 2.65	\$ 5.14

Projected 2027 Costs

	Alkaline (84%)	Li Single Use (11%)	Button/Coin (5%)	Total (100%)
E360	\$12,900	\$11,324	\$11,340	\$35,564
Ewaste+	\$13,200	\$31,350	\$15,015	\$60,405
NLR	\$13,500	\$11,058	\$6,111	\$30,669
Vesco	\$15,600	\$10,070	\$10,794	\$36,464

RECOMMENDATION:

Select NLR, Inc as the provider for battery recycling services with a not-to-exceed figure of \$35,000 from January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2027.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TO CONTRACT FOR ADDITIONAL
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency authorized the Executive Director by approval of Resolution 2458, of September 11, 2024 to enter into an agreement with Miller Environmental Group for household hazardous waste services for waste materials from Onondaga County residents; and

WHEREAS, the original \$200,000 authorized in Resolution 2458 is nearly all expended and the Agency's NYSDEC operating permit for the Waste-to-Energy Facility requires these materials to be kept out of the waste stream and managed separately; and

WHEREAS, the Recycling/Operations Committee has reviewed this request and agrees to authorize additional funds for the continuation of household hazardous waste services and engage with Miller Environmental Group for an additional \$50,000; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency hereby authorizes the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with Miller Environmental Group, Syracuse, New York for the management of household hazardous waste at a cost not to exceed an additional \$50,000 for a total not to exceed amount of \$250,000 for the year 2026. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Resolution Adopted Date: _____

Vote: Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Signature : _____

COMMITTEE BRIEF

Household Hazardous Waste Services

October 21, 2026

Household hazardous waste (HHW), such as pesticides, automotive fluids, and other hazardous household products, cannot be disposed of in the trash or down the drain. OCRRA's NYSDEC permit for the Waste-to-Energy Facility requires these materials to be kept out of the waste stream and managed separately.

OCRRA has provided HHW collection services for more than 30 years. After operating periodic collection events for many years, OCRRA transitioned to a year-round drop-off program in 2013. The current program operates three days per week and one Saturday each month.



CURRENT PROGRAM:

Miller Environmental Group (MEG) provides these services under a contract that expires on December 31, 2026. The current cost is **\$107.78 per vehicle**, and the program averages approximately **1,760 appointments annually**.

Program participation in 2026 has exceeded projections. Based on current usage trends, the Board-approved HHW not-to-exceed of **\$200,000** is expected to be exhausted by late October.

FUTURE PROGRAM:

OCRRA issued a Request for Quotes (RFQ) in July 2026 for continued year-round HHW services. No qualified proposals were received. MEG did not submit a proposal. Operating a year-round HHW facility requires a NYSDEC permit, and there are currently no other permitted facilities in Onondaga County capable of providing these services.

As a result, OCRRA anticipates returning to an event-based HHW collection model in 2027 while continuing to pursue the long-term vision of a permanent HHW facility at Ley Creek North.

A new RFQ for HHW collection events is being developed, and a proposed 2027 service plan will be presented to the Committee once pricing and program details are available. The 2027 budget includes **\$250,000** for HHW management.

It is anticipated that public notification of the transition from year-round service to collection events may further increase participation during the remainder of 2026 as residents seek to dispose of accumulated HHW before the program changes.

Recommendation

Increase the 2026 HHW management budget authorization from **\$200,000 to \$250,000** to accommodate higher-than-anticipated participation and expected increased demand through the end of the year. All eligible HHW management costs are reimbursable by the **NYSDEC at 50%**.