

**Updated 12/22/11**

Follow this listing to find “The Right Way to Throw Away”. All information and pricing is subject to change without notice. For more information, please contact the County Solid Waste Department at (607) 547-4225.

Various locations throughout the county are set up to receive your recyclables **Currently, Otsego County accepts plastics 1-5 with some exceptions as noted below.** .Certain locations also receive some scrap metal items as described below.

The locations and times are as follows:

- MOSA Oneonta Station – I-88 Exit 13 to Silas Lane (Mon – Sat 7-3)
- MOSA Cooperstown Station – NYS 28/80, 1 mi. north of village (Haulers M-F; Residents M-Sat)  
Hours of operation 7 - 3)
- Cherry Valley – NYS 166, north of village (Sat 8-11)
- Decatur – Ivan Mereness Road, near hamlet (Sat 7-2)
- Hartwick – Town barn, in hamlet (Everyday 6am-6pm, Metal Recycling M-Th. 6-4:30 & Sat. 8-2)
- Morris – Card Rd, east of village (Th 8-12; Sat 8-2)
- Pittsfield/Burlington – Mumbalo Rd, off Co Rt 49 (Sat 9-3)
- Richfield Springs – Elm St Ext, east of village (Sat 7:30-1)
- Schenevus – Tannery St, south of hamlet (Mon & Sat 7-1)
- Schuylar Lake – Town barn, north of hamlet (Sat 10-12)
- Springfield – NYS 80, 2 mi. north of Rt 20 (Sat 8-12)
- Unadilla – NYS 7, west of village ( Sat 9-1)
- Westford – Strong Hill Rd, north of hamlet (Tu & Sat 6-2)
- Worcester – Town barn, in hamlet (Tu & Sat 7-11)

Aerosol Cans – (food service, cosmetics, paints, pesticides, etc) – Recyclable. You must follow usage directions so the entire product is dispensed. Spray nozzles do not need to be removed. If the aerosol can has a plastic lid you should remove it. Do not recycle aerosol cans that have contained paint, starter fluid, pesticides or other hazardous wastes, place them in the garbage. Place aerosol cans with your container group for recycling.<sup>1</sup>

Air Conditioners – The MOSA stations in Oneonta and Cooperstown take them for \$20/unit even if they

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<sup>1</sup> Oneida Herkimer Solid Waste Authority Recycling Flyer

contain Freon gas. The recycling stations in Cherry Valley, Morris (local residents only), Pittsfield, Richfield, Schenevus, Springfield, Unadilla, and Westford also accept units for about \$10-25 if they still contain Freon. At the Decatur station, the Freon must first be removed by a certified individual.

Antifreeze – Bring to the County’s Hazardous Waste Collection Day usually held in early September. Antifreeze is highly toxic and should never be disposed of in the ground, sewage system or sink drain. Check with your local automobile service station to see if they have a recycling program.

Appliances (counter top) – (blenders, toasters, etc.) – Regular trash, or if substantially made of metal. *See “Scrap Metal”*. Check with you local service agencies and thrift shops for resale of working items.

Appliances (floor models; large) – (washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators, freezers) – Handled as scrap metal, except for appliances containing Freon gas. If still in usable condition, may be taken to some thrift shops. *See also “Scrap Metal” and “Refrigerators/Freezers/Air Conditioners” and “Clothing (and household goods and appliances)”*.

Asbestos (friable) – “flies in the air”; dust particles; hazardous (e.g., wrapping material used on pipes and ducts) – MOSA does not accept. Is more regulated by DEC. Certified asbestos remover and disposal facility is required.

Asbestos (non-friable) – (hard, brittle, less hazardous – e.g., house siding material) – MOSA accepts all non-friable asbestos (residential and commercial.) When bringing non-friable asbestos to MOSA, please double bag and acknowledge to the station the material in non-friable asbestos.

Barrels – Plastic water barrels must be rinsed and the ends cut off to ensure that they no longer hold any water, as required by landfills. Then they can be disposed of as regular waste at the transfer stations.

Batteries (automotive) – Free to dispose when you buy a new one at any retailer. If you don’t have an old one to trade-in, you’ll pay a surcharge. By law retailers must accept used lead-acid batteries from customers. Also accepted at Otsego Auto Crushers (432-2375) on Rt. 23 Southside in Oneonta open M-F 8am-5pm and Saturday mornings. Automotive batteries are also accepted at the Otsego County Annual Household Hazardous Waste event in the Fall. Check with the County Solid Waste Department for details in mid August (607)-547-4225

Batteries – (carbon zinc and alkaline) – Carbon zinc and alkaline are safe to throw away in the regular trash and have no recycle value.

Batteries (household – other than non-rechargeable carbon zinc and alkaline) – All of the other batteries around the house still contain mercury, silver, lead or other dangerous materials. Batteries are accepted at the Oneonta and Cooperstown Transfer station through MOSA at a price of \$1.00 per 10 batteries. Or, batteries can be brought to the County’s Hazardous Waste Collection Day usually held in early September.

Batteries (household – rechargeable) – Return to retailer or manufacturer at no charge, or, batteries can be brought to the County’s Hazardous Waste Collection Day usually held in early September.

Bicycles – Check with local service agencies that may accept usable bikes. Unusable bikes can be brought to Otsego Auto Crushers or to the Oneonta or Cooperstown transfer station as scrap metal.

Books (hard cover) – Regular trash. Unless, the hard covers and bindings are torn off leaving only the paper pages without glue or binding, then the paper portion of the book can be disposed of in the paper recycling bins. Various opportunities for reuse are also available in our area. Contact local book exchanges, libraries, nursing homes, Salvation Army Thrift Stores for information on donating your used books.

Books (soft cover) – Take to local recycling station, or leave for your solid waste hauler with recyclables. Contact local book exchanges, community yard sales, libraries, nursing homes, hospitals or other thrift stores for information on donating your used books.

Caps and Lids – Dispose of plastic caps and lids in regular trash.

Cardboard and Corrugated Cardboard – Take to local recycling station, or leave for your solid waste hauler with recyclables. Must be flattened. **Wax-Coated corrugated cardboard is not accepted, and should be disposed of in regular trash.**

Carbon Oxide Detectors – Regular trash.

Cell Phones – Cell phones are accepted at OCCA offices for remanufacture. Also recycled at Oneonta & Cooperstown transfer stations for no fee.

CD’s & electronic media – GreenDisk-Techno Trash 2200 Burlington Street, Columbia, Missouri 65202. For a list of items GreenDisk accepts, check out their web site at [www.greendisk.com](http://www.greendisk.com).

Christmas Lights – Visit

[http://www.holidayleds.com/holidayledscom\\_christmas\\_light\\_recycling\\_program](http://www.holidayleds.com/holidayledscom_christmas_light_recycling_program)

Clothing (and household goods and appliances) – Thrift shops and family service organizations may take unwanted household items in good clean usable condition. Otherwise, clothing is trash.

Clothes Hangers – Regular Trash

Computers and Computer Monitors – See “*Electronics*”.

Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris – Old lumber, sheetrock, shingles, old fixtures, carpeting, etc. are accepted at the MOSA solid waste transfer stations in both Oneonta and Cooperstown.

Containers – (food, beverage, laundry and toiletries) – Take to local recycling station, or leave for your solid waste hauler with recyclables. Includes: Green, Amber & Clear, food & beverage containers, liquor & wine bottles, deposit bottles, canning jars, plastic containers with codes 1-5, soda bottles, milk and water jugs, windshield washer jugs, mustard & ketchup, soap and detergent, mouthwash, salad dressing, peanut butter, milk, juice cartons and juice boxes, food & beverage cans, deposit cans, foil wrap, foil plates & trays, aerosol cans (emptied). All of the above can be mixed together. ***Does not include the following that are trash*** – broken glass, drinking glasses, ovenware & ceramics, window panes, mirrors, windshields, light bulbs, dishes, cups, plates, empty plastic bags, plates & tableware, medicine bottles, motor oil bottles, clothes hangers, number 6&7 plastics, styrofoam, six-pack holders, snack bags, toys, straws, plastic caps & lids, plexiglass, paint & pesticides, metal cardboard containers such as cocoa & motor oil, silverware and small appliances. mildewed or moldy containers, tile, Pyrex

Contaminated Soils - See “*Soils*”

Copiers – See “*Electronics*”.

Dehumidifiers – See “*Refrigerators*”.

Driveway Sealers – Bring to the County’s Hazardous Waste Collection Day usually held in early September.

Explosives – Contact your local police department.

Electronics (home entertainment) –Electronics including television sets and television consoles, computer monitors, CPU's, keyboards, CD/DVD players and gaming equipment, batteries, cell phones and miscellaneous electronics are now accepted during regular business hours at the Cooperstown and Oneonta Transfer Station FREE of CHARGE.

Eyeglasses – Many local Lions Clubs and other service organizations collect used eyeglasses. Check with your local area representatives.

Fertilizers – Bring to the County's Hazardous Waste Collection Day usually held in early September.

Flower Pots – Regular trash.

Fluorescent Bulbs or Lamps (unbroken) – (includes new-type "twisty" compact fluorescent light bulbs) – Currently most are hazardous waste due to their mercury content. MOSA will accept CFL, Florescents and Ballasts bulbs at a cost of \$.40 each. Many home improvement centers now have dispensaries for all types of florescent bulbs. Check your local directory or visit the County website <http://www.otsegocounty.com/solidwaste> for further suggestions. Bulbs can also be brought to the annual County Household Hazardous Waste Event.

Fluorescent Bulbs or Lamps (broken) – (includes new-type "twisty" compact fluorescent light bulbs) – Throw away as trash in a puncture-proof container. Please read the following safety precautions:

**How should I clean up a broken fluorescent bulb? (from www.energystar.com)**

EPA recommends the following clean-up and disposal guidelines:

**Before Clean-up: Vent the Room**

- Open a window and leave the room for 15 minutes or more.
- Shut off the central forced-air heating/air conditioning system, if you have one.

**Clean-Up Steps for Hard Surfaces**

- Carefully scoop up glass fragments and powder using stiff paper or cardboard and place them in a glass jar with metal lid (such as a canning jar) or in a sealed plastic bag.
- Use sticky tape, such as duct tape, to pick up any remaining small glass fragments and powder.
- Wipe the area clean with damp paper towels or disposable wet wipes and place them in the glass jar or plastic bag.
- Do not use a vacuum or broom to clean up the broken bulb on hard surfaces.

**Clean-up Steps for Carpeting or Rug:**

- Carefully pick up glass fragments and place them in a glass jar with metal lid (such as a canning jar) or in a sealed plastic bag.

- Use sticky tape, such as duct tape, to pick up any remaining small glass fragments and powder.
- If vacuuming is needed after all visible materials are removed, vacuum the area where the bulb was broken.
- Remove the vacuum bag (or empty and wipe the canister), and put the bag or vacuum debris in a sealed plastic bag.

**Disposal of Clean-up Materials**

- Immediately place all cleanup materials outside the building in a trash container or outdoor protected area for the next normal trash.
- Wash your hands after disposing of the jars or plastic bags containing clean-up materials.
- Check with your local or state government about disposal requirements in your specific area. Some states prohibit such trash disposal and require that broken and unbroken lamps be taken to a local recycling center.

**Future Cleaning of Carpeting or Rug: Vent the Room During and After Vacuuming**

- For at least the next few times you vacuum, shut off the central forced-air heating/air conditioning system and open a window prior to vacuuming.
- Keep the central heating/air conditioning system shut off and the window open for at least 15 minutes after vacuuming is completed.

Food Waste – Try composting. Contact the Otsego County Conservation Association at (607) 547-4488 or Cornell Cooperative Extension at (607) 547-2536 for more information. Otherwise, food waste is trash.

Furniture and Mattresses – Accepted at MOSA’S Solid Waste Transfer Stations in Oneonta and Cooperstown. Contact your local Family Service Association, Thrift Shop or Salvation Army.

Garbage – Household garbage and other trash can be taken directly to MOSA’s solid waste transfer stations in Oneonta and Cooperstown at the rate of about \$3 per 30 gallon bag. Garbage can also be left out for pick-up service by your local hauler (see website for list of haulers). Many of the local recycling stations in the county have a local garbage hauler on-site on Saturday mornings to take bagged garbage for about \$2-3 per bag.

Garbage Cans (plastic, metal) – Plastic cans are regular trash. Metal cans – See “Scrap Metal”.

Gasoline – See “Old Gas”.

Glass (bottles and jars) – Recyclable. See “Containers”.

Hard Cover Books – See “Books (hard cover)”.

Hazardous Wastes – Try using non-hazardous alternatives. Bring to the County’s Hazardous Waste Collection Day usually held in early September or contact a professional environmental firm for pick up.

Humidifiers – Regular trash

Juice Cartons and Boxes – Recyclable. Squeeze juice boxes and containers until empty. Throw away straws and dispose with containers.

Junk Mail and other items – Households can reduce unwanted mailing by accessing the following web site at [www.PrivacyCouncil.org](http://www.PrivacyCouncil.org). The “Opt Out” program will prevent pre-approved credit card mailings. Contact 1-888-5-OPTOUT (1-888-567-8688). The recording will ask for your social security number, full name, address and telephone number.

Laundry Baskets (plastic) – Recyclable. Can be combined with other recyclable plastic containers.

Lawnmowers – See “Scrap Metal”. Mowers should be void of gasoline and oil before bringing to the transfer station.

Microwave Ovens – Depending on the type of microwave, it may be treated as scrap metal or an electronic. Microwaves are accepted at the Oneonta and Cooperstown transfer station.

Medicine Bottles (prescription) - Place all prescription medicine bottles directly in the garbage.

**Do not dispose of medication by flushing down a toilet or drain. If necessary take all unused medication to a pharmacy collection site or the County Household Hazardous Waste Collection event in the Fall.**

Mobile Homes – At least four private businesses handle the demolition and removal of mobile homes. Please contact the following: Tom’s Mobile Home Repair and Transport (Tom Gott – Edmeston – 607-965-8021); J&C Mobile Home Transport (Dick Williams – Sherburne – 607-674-4929); Bob Hoffman (serving northern Otsego County only) – 315-866-5873 and William Bawolak - 315-717-4449 (servicing all of Otsego County).

Motor Oil – As required by State law, used motor oil must be accepted *free of charge* at businesses that service motor vehicles and sell more than 500 gallons of oil per year, and the retailers that don’t service vehicles but sell more than 1,000 gallons annually. It is limited to 5 gallons/person each day. Some of

these places use the old oil as a heating fuel and may take even more. Some other industries that burn waste oil may also accept this. **Empty motor oil containers should not be included in with plastic recyclables, dispose in regular trash.**

Needles/Syringes – Do *not* set out with recyclables. Snap off the needle and break the syringe tube to prevent second-hand use. Place used needles and syringes in a puncture resistant container. We recommend a large laundry detergent bottle. When the bottle is full, screw the lid on tight and tape the lid shut with duct tape or packing tape. Clearly label the bottle “NEEDLES”. You can dispose of them with regular trash; however, do not put the container in a bag with other garbage. Leave the bottle for your local garbage hauler on the curb next to your regular trash so the hauler can handle it. We would strongly suggest you call your hauler to inquire if they have any other requirements for handling needles and syringes. They can also be dropped off at the out patient lab at Foxcare and at the out patient pharmacy at Bassett Healthcare.

Oil Filters – Bring to the County’s Hazardous Waste Collection Day usually held in early September.

Old Gas – Bring to the County’s Hazardous Waste Collection Day usually held in early September.

Old Mobile Homes – See “*Mobile Homes*”.

Paint Chips – Regular trash.

Paint, Latex – Bring to the County’s Hazardous Waste Collection Day usually held in early September. Mark the lids “L” for latex. Paint is received (with no limit) and eventually re-mixed for free distribution to municipal or not-for-profit agencies. Small amounts should be poured into absorbent material and thrown away as trash. Empty cans, or cans with dried out material, should be thrown away as trash with the lids removed.

Paint, Oil-based – Bring to the County’s Hazardous Waste Collection Day usually held in early September. Mark the lids “O” for oil. Small amounts should be poured into absorbent material and thrown away as trash. Empty cans, or cans with dried out material, should be thrown away as trash with the lids removed.

Plastic Bags – **No, do not place plastic grocery bags, or any other plastic bag even if a number with the triangle recycling symbol is shown, with your recyclable material.** We are presently not recycling plastic film such as plastic bags. This material should be reused or taken to local grocery or drug stores

that provide film plastic recycling. Do not place bags of plastic bags with your recyclables.

Soils, Contaminated – Soils being excavated and removed due to pollution for example, by an underground leaking oil tank or septic system need to be disposed of in accordance with DEC regulations. Deliveries may be accepted at state certified landfills. Before excavating, contact the Fulton County Department of Solid Waste for at 518-736-5501 or [recycle@co.fulton.ny.us](mailto:recycle@co.fulton.ny.us) for further details and confirmation of delivery.

Paper – Take to local recycling station, or leave for your solid waste hauler with recyclables. Includes: newspapers and inserts, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, manila folders, envelopes, paper bags; white, colored, notebook and fax paper, carbonless business forms; wrapping paper (non-metallic), greeting cards; phone books, paperback books (soft cover); clean cardboard including corrugated boxes (wavy middle layer); clean pizza boxes; single layer cardboard (gray, brown, and non-waxy white boxes). All of the above can be mixed together. ***Does not include the following that are trash*** – food wrappers, paper plates, cups, tissues, napkins; soaked paper and yellowed newsprint; carbon paper, blueprint paper, plastic express envelopes; metallic gift wrap and all bows; waxed paper; used tissues, paper plates, paper towels and tissue paper; plastic bags; frozen food boxes; Soda & Beer Cartons; carbon paper; construction paper; copier paper wrappers; wax-coated corrugated. See “Books” and “Cardboard”.

Pesticides – Bring to the County’s Hazardous Waste Collection Day usually held in early September.

Plastic Containers – Must be labeled as #1 - #5 on or near the bottom, and cannot include containers that were formerly used for petroleum or other hazardous products, such as oil or antifreeze or “spackle buckets”. Please be sure they are all rinsed. Please flatten large milk jugs. ***Do not include the following plastics: empty plastic bags; plates & tableware; medicine bottles; motor oil bottles; clothes hangers numb 6 & 7 plastics; Styrofoam packaging; flower pots; furniture; six-pack holders; snack bags; toys; straws; plastic caps and lids; plexiglass; pesticides; metal-cardboard containers (such as cocoa & Motor Oil); silverware; small appliances.***

Plastic Planters/Trays –Regular trash.

Plastic Buckets, Pails –Regular trash.

Plastic Toys – Regular trash.

Pool Chemicals – Bring to the County’s Hazardous Waste Collection Day usually held in early

September.

Printers – See “*Electronics*”.

Propane Tanks/Cylinders – Can be disposed at MOSA’s stations in Oneonta or Cooperstown at no charge as scrap metal items. Also accepted at Otsego Auto Crushers (432-2375) on Rt. 23 Southside in Oneonta open M-F 8am-5pm and Saturday mornings. Valves should be removed before disposal. Can also bring to the County’s Hazardous Waste Collection Day usually held in early September.

Railroad Ties – Can be disposed of as regular trash. Even with creosote they are considered regular trash. These should never be burned.

Refrigerators, Freezers, and Air Conditioners – Are accepted from county residents at various locations. The MOSA stations in Oneonta and Cooperstown take them for \$20/unit (if they contain Freon gas) or at no charge if the Freon has been removed and a tag of certification is attached. The stations in Cherry Valley, Morris (local residents only), Pittsfield, Richfield, Schuyler Lake, Springfield, Unadilla and Westford also accept units for about \$10-25 if they still contain Freon. At the Decatur station, the Freon must first be removed by a certified individual. See “*Appliances*” and “*Scrap Metal*”.

Rigid Plastic Buckets, Pails, Toys – Regular trash.

Roofing Material – Accepted at the Oneonta and Cooperstown MOSA Stations. See “*Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris*”.

Scrap Metal – Can be recycled at no charge. Old appliances, lawn mowers, bicycles, BBQ grills, sheet metal, aluminum siding, lawn chairs, copper and iron pipes, car parts, etc. Do not include hazardous materials, safes (they contain asbestos), home electronics or paint cans. Take to local recycling drop off stations in: Decatur, Morris (Morris village and town residents only), Pittsfield (Burlington & Pittsfield town residents only), Richfield, Schenevus (Maryland town residents only), Schuyler Lake, Springfield, Unadilla and Westford; or at Otsego Auto Crushers (432-2375) on Rt. 23 Southside in Oneonta open M-F 8am-5pm and Saturday mornings; or at MOSA’s Oneonta and Cooperstown stations.

Smoke Detectors – Wrap in newspaper, double bag and place in regular trash.

Solvents – Bring to the County’s Hazardous Waste Collection Day usually held in early September.

Spray Cans – See “Aerosol Cans”.

Syringes – See “Needles”

Telephones and Answering Machines – See “Electronics”

Televisions – See “Electronics”.

Thermostats/Thermometers containing Mercury- Bring to the County’s Hazardous Waste Collection Day usually held in early September.

Tires – Help tires last longer by keeping them properly inflated. Take to a local tire dealer when buying new tires. Take to the MOSA stations in Oneonta and Cooperstown for a modest charge. MOSA has the following approximate charges – auto tires \$2.00/Tire; commercial truck tires– \$7.00; all other tires \$138.00/ton. Tires mixed with MSW (Municipal Solid Waste will be charged \$10/Tire plus applicable \$/ton). Take to a local tire collection that your town *may* hold in the spring.

Toner (cartridges and waste toner containers) – Office Max will accept and dispose of toner cartridges, even brands that they do not carry.

Trash – See “Garbage”.

Used Motor Oil – See “Motor Oil”.

Vacuum Cleaners – Regular trash.

VCRs – See “Electronics”.

Wood Pellet Bags – Pellet bags are not accepted as a recyclable item. Typically the bags are made from #4 LDPE Plastic which is the same plastic used for grocery bags and can be disposed of at any grocery or retail store that has a bin for returning plastic grocery bags.

Wrapping Paper – Recyclable, except that metallic paper and all bows are trash. See “Paper”.

Yard Waste – City of Oneonta residents can use yard waste facility on Silas Lane after calling city DPW for appointment to enter yard. Other communities – local programs vary; call local clerk for more

information. Is accepted as trash at MOSA stations.

N: Solid Waste/Specialty Items/Listing for Web