

Recycling Items Not Included in the Curbside Program



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AEROSOL CANS

The Monroe County HHW (Household Hazardous Waste) Program accepts all types of FULL or PARTIALLY FULL aerosol cans for recycling/disposal. Visit www.monroecounty.gov and click on [Schedule a Household Hazardous Waste Appointment](#), or call 753-7600.



Only EMPTY aerosol cans with lids removed - **EXCLUDING SPRAY PAINTS AND INSECTICIDES** – can be placed in the recycling bin. All lids and empty cans that contained SPRAY PAINTS and INSECTICIDE must be placed in the trash.

APPLIANCES CONTAINING FREON (Refrigerators, Freezers, Dehumidifiers & Air Conditioners)

County law requires the recycling of all metal “white goods” (appliances). Call your refuse hauler – there may be a charge for the Freon decommissioning service (usually between \$30 and \$50).

When purchasing a new appliance, ask if the retailer provides “haul away service” for the appliance that is being replaced. In many instances this may be cheaper than recycling it on your own.

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE WITH OLD NON-FREON APPLIANCES?

Appliances that do not contain Freon contain valuable metal can be taken to a scrap metal business with no decommissioning fee (see METALS-Scrap). Some local municipalities will also accept such metal at DPWs or during special recycling days. Contact your town/village for availability.

Suburban Towns – contact town or hauler, some haulers will pickup for free.

City – appliances (refrigerators must have doors removed) can be placed at the curb on your regular refuse pick up day.

ASBESTOS

Asbestos fibers that become airborne (friable) when disturbed are dangerous if inhaled—disposal must be done professionally. Call one of several contractors listed in the phone book under **“Asbestos Removal and Abatement Services.”**

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE WITH NON-FRIABLE ASBESTOS?

Again, judgements whether asbestos waste poses a health hazard is best left to professionals. Residents may take non-friable asbestos (shingles, flooring, etc.) to the **Mill Seat Landfill**—call first at 494-3000.

For questions pertaining to health issues surrounding asbestos, contact the Monroe County Health Dept. at 753-6000.

AUTOMOTIVE CARE ITEMS

CAR BATTERIES

It is illegal in New York to dispose of a car battery in the trash. Auto batteries can be recycled, and state law requires retailers to accept, free of charge, up to two used batteries per month from any individual. When buying a new battery, a \$5 surcharge is included. Return the old battery when purchasing a new one to avoid the surcharge. Vehicle batteries can also be taken to some town DPWs (please call first) or scrap yards.

USED MOTOR OIL

Any service establishment that sells at least 500 gallons per year of new oil and performs vehicle servicing must accept from the public at no charge up to five gallons of used oil per person per day. Retailers who don't service vehicles but sell at least 1,000 gallons per year of new oil must also accept used oil from the public.

Motor oil mixed with gasoline is accepted at HHW **collections**.



ANTIFREEZE, BRAKE AND TRANSMISSION FLUIDS

These automotive fluids are accepted by Monroe County's Household Hazardous Waste program. Visit www.monroecounty.gov and click on Schedule a Household Hazardous Waste Appointment, or call 753-7600.

BATTERIES

ALKALINE BATTERIES (Household batteries)

Alkaline or zinc batteries can be disposed of in the trash.

For a fee-based battery recycling program, visit: www.thinkgreenfromhome.com/batteries.cfm



LITHIUM, BUTTON, RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES

Nickel-Cadmium (Ni-Cad), Button and Lithium Ion are accepted free-of-charge at many retailers, including: Best Buy, Lowes, Home Depot, Sears, Staples, Sprint, Target, and Verizon Wireless. These batteries are also accepted by Monroe County's Household Hazardous Waste program. Visit www.monroecounty.gov and click on Schedule a Household Hazardous Waste Appointment, or call 753-7600 (option 3).

NOTE: For batteries bought before 1993 (or corroded or leaking batteries), visit www.monroecounty.gov and click on Schedule a Household Hazardous Waste Appointment, or call 753-7600 (option 3).

BUSINESS (Hazardous) WASTE

The **HHW Facility** will accept wastes from businesses if they meet Small Quantity Generator (CESQG) status. CESQG program **Exempt Form #7** explains the policy and procedures can be downloaded from the HHW pages of this web site. The form can also be mailed to you by calling 753-7600 (option 3).

CELLULAR PHONES

Under the New York State Wireless Recycling Act, all wireless telephone service providers selling phones must accept cell phones for reuse or recycling. This law requires these businesses to accept up to 10 cell phones from any person or to provide shipping for phones.

Cell phones can be recycled locally at Home Depot, CVS, Staples, WalMart, Radio Shack, Sears, Lowes, Best Buy, Sam's Club and Target. The Monroe County Household Hazardous Waste program also accepts used cell phones for recycling. Visit www.monroecounty.gov and click on Schedule a Household Hazardous Waste Appointment, or call 753-7600 (option 3). Consult the internet for many not-for-profit opportunities to donate a used cell phone.



COMPUTER/E-WASTE RECYCLING

While it is currently legal for residents to place old computer equipment at the curb for disposal, identity thieves can steal personal information from old hard drives. It is illegal for businesses to dispose of computers in the regular trash. To properly dispose of used computer equipment:

Find a responsible recycler - Businesses and residents who wish to properly dispose of used computer equipment should call Regional Computer Recycling and Recovery – 924-3840; SunKing, Inc. – 637-8365; or Maven Technologies, 458-2460. There may be a fee associated with these services. Goodwill Project Reconnect offers free recycling for any brand of computer equipment in any condition. Residents can find a drop-off location at www.reconnectpartnership.com or www.abvi-goodwill.org. Residents are responsible for removing data from hard drives and other storage media before donating to Goodwill, and ABVI-Goodwill staff will provide donors with a receipt at the time of donation.

Return to a retailer - When buying new computer equipment, ask if the retailer will take back old gear. Many retailers do this for free, or a small fee.

Many local municipalities hold annual recycling events where e-waste is accepted from residents.

NOTE—The NYS Electronic Equipment Recycling and Reuse Act (effective 4/1/11) requires manufacturers to provide a free and convenient way for consumers to recycle certain types of e-waste including: **Computers, Televisions, Cathode Ray Tubes, Small Scale Servers, Computer Peripherals** (*to include any cable, cord, or wiring permanently affixed to or incorporated into such product.*)

- Monitors
- Electronic Keyboards
- Electronic Mice or Similar Pointing Devices
- Facsimile Machines, document scanners, and printers (*only those intended for use with a computer and weighing less than 100 lbs.*)

Small Electronic Equipment (*Small electronic equipment also include any cable, cord, or wiring permanently affixed to or incorporated into such product.*)

- VCRs
- Digital Video Recorders
- Portable Digital Music Players
- DVD Players
- Digital Converter Boxes
- Cable or Satellite Receivers
- Electronic or Video Game Consoles

Please refer to www.dec.ny.us for details and progress of this program.

CONFIDENTIAL PAPER



All types of paper that contains confidential information can be recycled after home shredding—place in clear plastic bag in your recycling bin. Many municipalities offer shredding services for residents with larger quantities of confidential paper at annual municipal recycling events. Call your town/village for availability. Businesses can call Cascades Recovery (527-8110) for certified document destruction or a list of other companies can be found under the “**Paper-Shredded**” section of the Yellow Pages.

ELECTRONIC DATA STORAGE MEDIA (and its packaging)

Visit www.greendisk.com to responsibly and securely dispose of all of your electronic data storage media (hard drives, CDs, DVDs, Zip disks, floppy disks, etc.) and their cases—for a fee. For more information call 1- 800-305-3475. Residents should also call local computer recycling companies to see if they provide similar services.

FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS / TUBES / BALLASTS

Careful recycling of Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs) prevents the release of mercury into the environment and allows for the reuse of glass, metals and other materials. Households are strongly encouraged to recycle these mercury-containing lamps, including low-mercury “green-end” caps. **CFLs ONLY should be taken to certain retailers (Home Depot, Lowes, etc.) for recycling.**

Businesses must recycle fluorescent lamps—placing them in the regular garbage is not allowed. Certain small businesses with 100 or less employees disposing of 15 or fewer non-hazardous waste lamps per month are exempt.

High Intensity Discharge (HID) lamps, such as those that contain metal halide, high pressure sodium, or mercury vapor should also be recycled.



The Monroe County Household Hazardous Waste program accepts fluorescent and HID bulbs for recycling. Visit www.monroecounty.gov and click on Schedule a Household Hazardous Waste Appointment, or call 753-7600 (option 3).

F.O.G. – FATS/OIL/GREASE

County residents are encouraged to bring home-use cooking oil-fat to Monroe County's Household Hazardous Waste program for recycling. Please **DO NOT** dispose of cooking oil down ANY drain. Visit www.monroecounty.gov and click on Schedule a Household Hazardous Waste Appointment, or call 753-7600.

Certain inedible food waste (meat, fat, cooking oil, etc.) from restaurants or businesses can be recycled into products such as animal feed. For information contact **Baker Commodities** at 482-1880.

MERCURY

Mercury (from thermometers, thermostats, etc.) should be packaged in secondary containment (i.e. jug inside of pail) for transport and brought to Monroe County's Industrial Waste section or an **HHW collection**. Visit www.monroecounty.gov and click on Schedule a Household Hazardous Waste Appointment, or call 753-7600.

If you have a very large quantity of mercury (10 lbs. or more) please call HHW Coordinator at 753-7553.



METALS (scrap)

Scrap metal is a valuable commodity and resource. In many cases, if unwanted metal items (patio furniture, tool boxes, washers, old garbage cans, etc.) are left curbside on garbage day, it will be picked by people who look for such valuable material to take to scrap yards for cash. Unfortunately, a great deal of this resource ends up in local landfills. Residents may bring unwanted metal to local scrap yards (see **Scrap Metals** in your Yellow Pages) for money. Local municipalities will some times accept scrap metal at DPWs or during special recycling days—contact your municipality for availability.

METAL TANKS (propane, fire extinguishers, helium, gas, fuel oil, etc.)

PROPANE TANKS

- **Taylor Rental** – 205 North Ave., Webster – 872-2770. Will take 20, 30, 40 and 100 lb. tanks (free).
- **Suburban Propane** – 3325 Chili Ave., Chili Center 889-3770 – (\$4 each tank)
- **Jackson Welding Supply** – 535 Buffalo Rd. – 235-2920. Will take 20, 30, 40 and 100 lb. tanks (\$5.00 disposal fee)
- One or 20-pound tanks (full or empty) can be dropped off at the **Monroe County HHW** facility for disposal (no charge). Visit www.monroecounty.gov and click on Schedule a Household Hazardous Waste Appointment, or call 753-7600.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

The **County's HHW Facility** will accept fire extinguishers. Visit www.monroecounty.gov and click on Schedule a Household Hazardous Waste Appointment, or call 753-7600.



HELIUM TANKS

The county's HHW program will accept helium tanks. Visit www.monroecounty.gov and click on Schedule a Household Hazardous Waste Appointment, or call 753-7600 (option 3).

HOME HEATING FUEL OIL TANKS

If still on property, call **AAA Universal Heating** at 328-1423. For \$595 they will pump, remove and dispose of the tank and oil. (Price effective as of 2/24/10 and is subject to change.)

Old heating oil can be brought to a **county Household Hazardous Waste collection**. Visit www.monroecounty.gov and click on Schedule a Household Hazardous Waste Appointment, or call 753-7600.

MICROWAVE OVENS

Local scrap yards will recycle microwave ovens and other scrap metal for no charge. See also METALS (Scrap).

PLASTIC CONTAINERS #3-7

Only plastic bottles, jugs and jars numbered 1 (PET) and 2 (HDPE) are currently accepted for recycling at the Monroe County Recycling Center (MCRC). While many haulers operating locally use the MCRC for recycling, some use private recycling facilities. Recycling collectors delivering to private facilities may allow additional plastic containers in curbside recycling bins. Generally, these #3-7 plastics are shipped overseas where many are processed at facilities with few environmental or human health/safety standards to make end-products of potentially dubious quality for export to the United States. In many cases, the remaining plastics not easily separated for processing are discarded via un- or under-regulated methods.

Plastics (#1 & 2) have long been the mainstay of the county plastic recycling program because they are recycled into sustainable end-products, consistent in quantity and stable in long-term markets. Monroe County is always looking to expand its recycling program through the use of sustainable diversion methods. Sustainable diversion includes locating markets that, at the minimum, are long-term, consistent, safe (to human health and the environment) and profitable. Markets have started to shift affording the potential for sustainable diversion of plastic #s 3-7 and the county is currently conducting pilot programs and market analyses in order to expand its program. For now, these plastics should be placed in the regular trash unless:

- Your contracted garbage hauler accepts all plastic containers;
- You participate in one of the grass-roots programs that accept additional plastic containers and transports them to an authorized non-MCRC recycler—some faith-based programs and some environmental (www.colorbrightongreen.org); or,
- You transport containers to someone with expanded container recycling service.

PLASTIC BAGS/WRAP

Grocery bags are not the only kind of plastic bags or product wrapping that can be returned to the store! A recent audit of household garbage in Monroe County found that eight percent of garbage was plastic bags/wrapping—much of which should have been recycled. Please return only the following clean, dry plastic bags and product wrapping (remove receipts or any other items from bags):

- **newspaper bags**
- **dry cleaning bags**
- **bread bags**
- **produce bags**
- **toilet paper, napkin, and paper towel wrapping**
- **furniture wrapping**
- **electronic component wrapping**
- **plastic retail bags** (hard plastic and string handles removed)
- **grocery bags**
- **plastic food storage bags** (clean and dry) – (e.g. Ziploc® Bags)
- **plastic cereal box liners** (if it tears like paper do not include)
- **Tyvek** (no glue, labels, other material)
- **diaper wrap** (packaging)
- **plastic shipping envelopes** (no bubble wrap/remove labels)
- **case wrap** (e.g., snacks, water bottles)
- **All clean, dry bags labeled #2 or #4**

Please **DO NOT** put plastic bags (except to contain shredded paper) or plastic product wrapping in your curbside recycling container.



PRINTER CARTRIDGES

Used cartridges can be remanufactured many times over and keep plastic, steel, aluminum and rubber out of landfills. Check with the retailer when you purchase a new cartridge – most recycle.

Metro Cartridge www.metrocartridge.com/contact_rochester.asp offers refilling of cartridges at several local retail locations.

Goodwill offers cartridge recycling through its Project Reconnect: - <http://reconnectpartnership.com>.

SHARPS (syringes, lancets, etc.)

Sharps must be in an approved sharps container, in a two-liter plastic pop container, or a rugged laundry soap bottle with cap taped on, and labeled "SHARPS."

They may be brought to the county's Industrial Waste section at 444 E. Henrietta Road during business hours. Call 753-7600 (option 3) for details, directions or to obtain container labels.



Additionally, area hospitals and nursing homes accept sharps for proper disposal. Please call ahead for details.

SMOKE DETECTORS

Although some smoke detectors contain a small radioactive component, they may be placed in the regular trash. The manufacturer may also be contacted for recycling options.

First Alert detectors can be returned to the company for recycling for a \$1 per unit fee. Call First Alert at 1-800-323-9005 for details.

OTHER RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL—Contact Monroe County Health Dept. 753-5600 (business hours only) or State Health Dept. (24-hour hotline – 1-518-465-9720). Also call 911.

STYROFOAM PACKAGING

For Styrofoam packing peanuts, call your local **mail/packing store** for reuse information. Styrofoam egg cartons can be recycled at Dolco Packaging, PO Box 1005, 2110 Patterson Street, Decatur, IN 46733-5005. Call 260-728-2161 or visit www.tekniplex.com/companies/dolco.html for information.

LARGE PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE ONLY are accepted for recycling by Thermal Foams, Inc. Call 247-0324 for more information.

TIRES

The NYS Waste Tire Management and Recycling Act (2003) requires retailers to manage waste tires. Customers may return tires in approximately the same size and in a quantity equal to the number of new tires purchased or installed. Contact local tire retailers for details on acceptance of unwanted tires at their locations. Fees will apply. City of



Rochester residents may leave tires at the curb on their regular refuse collection day.

Northside Salvage Yard – 954 Linden Ave., E. Rochester – 381-9667 (\$2 per tire on/off rim)

Tire Trax – 558 Atlantic Ave. – 482-2940 – (\$1.25 per tire off rim/\$3 per tire on rim)

Uneeda Tire Shop – 180 Hudson Ave. – 546-3860 – (\$2 per tire off rim/\$5 on rim).

UNWANTED/USABLE PRODUCTS

MAT-EX was established as a reuse program for a 19-county region. MAT-EX typifies the adage that “one person’s trash is another person’s treasure.” MAT-EX can help a business or individual locate users for surplus materials or to find free or inexpensive materials. For more information, call 585-344-2580 x 5463 – or visit www.mat-ex.org.

WIRE COAT HANGERS

Some dry cleaners will accept wire coat hangers for reuse. Additionally secondhand stores that sell clothing, such as Goodwill, the Salvation Army, and Volunteers of America will also reuse them.

