NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF
ADAM J. BELLO
MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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COUNTY EXECUTIVE ADAM BELLO MARKS 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF MONROE COUNTY ECOPARK

Monroe County's popular recycling center offers residents a place to bring hard-to-recycle and hazardous materials and "recycle right"

ROCHESTER, NY — County Executive Adam Bello announced today that this year marks the 15th anniversary of the ecopark, Monroe County's one-stop drop-off for residential recycling in partnership with WM.

In 2011, in response to the community's demand for expanded recycling options, Monroe County partnered with WM to create ecopark, a facility that provides residents with a single, centralized location to drop off materials that cannot be placed in regular curbside recycling bins. One of the first municipal facilities of its kind when it opened, the ecopark has grown in success over its first 15 years, expanding the types of items it accepts and welcoming more than 500,000 visitors to properly dispose of electronic waste, confidential documents, plastic, chemicals and more.

> "As ecopark has grown in popularity, we've strived to ensure it meets the needs of our residents. By introducing new partners and expanding the items accepted, we continue to provide residents with an easy way to dispose of materials, while simultaneously protecting our environment and conserving natural resources," **said County Executive Adam Bello.** "Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to recycle right and thank you to our partners who help us manage these materials both through proper disposal and reuse in new products."

ecopark keeps potentially hazardous materials out of our waste and recycling streams, protecting our natural resources, and creating opportunities to recover valuable materials. This type of specialty recycling service is possible through strong local partnerships with companies like WM

> "WM is proud to work alongside Monroe County in owning and operating ecopark and celebrating 15 years of making a positive impact in our community. This milestone reflects the dedication of our employees and everyone who helps make this facility a continued success," said Jeff Richardson, Area Director of Disposal Operations for WM. "We thank the residents who continue to recycle right and make responsible choices that help create a more sustainable future for our community and our environment."

Since 2011, county residents have utilized ecopark to dispose of:

- 8,000,000 pounds of electronic waste,
- 4,000 tons of household hazardous waste like paint, gasoline, and automotive fluids,
- 100,000 pounds of medication,
- 19,000 tires, and
- 700,000 pounds of documents.

Appointments are required for hazardous waste only and can be made through the website. While most items are free to recycle, fees may be charged for certain items, including tires and appliances with refrigerant. To learn more about Monroe County and WM's ecopark, its hours, and accepted materials, visit www.monroecounty.gov/ecopark.

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