



4R Times

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 3

FALL 2019

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ADVANCED COMPOST CLASS SERIES
- ULYSSES LIBRARY
- NEW DROP SPOT IN GROTON
- BRING YOUR OWN BAG

Did You Know...

Styrofoam should never go in your curbside recycling bin. We only accept plastics #1, 2, and 5. Reusable and recyclable options are best.



New Drop Spot Opens in Groton

A new Food Scraps Recycling Drop Spot opened in Groton on September 7th. Located at the Town Clerk's Office on Conger Boulevard, the drop spot is open from 9 to 11 every Saturday morning, providing residents from Groton and surrounding communities a convenient way to recycle their compostable materials.

Residents brought over 200 tons of food scraps to drop spots in the first half of 2019. The Groton drop spot is the 15th in Tompkins County.



The new Drop Spot provides residents with a convenient way to recycle even more.

Bring Your Own Bag!

New York State's ban on most types of single use plastic bags from retail sales will go into effect March 1st, 2020. The Tompkins County legislature is considering a local law to require a 5 cent fee for every paper bag sold. The law and fee are expected to result in a significant decrease of litter and an increase in the use of reusable bags. If you aren't already, now is the time to start using your own reusable bags! Here are some tips for increasing your reusable bag usage:

- **Find bags that you actually like.** Washable, self-contained, big, strong, and made of recycled materials are good features to look for. Bonus points if you like how they look.
- **Take your bags everywhere.** Keep them in your bag, purse, or car, or leave them in a place you'll remember like by the front door or hanging on the coat rack.
- **Keep them clean.** Wash your bags regularly by including them in your laundry so that they stay clean and usable.
- **Put them back.** Once you unload your groceries, put your bags back so you'll find them next time.

Remember, reusable bags conserve resources and reduce waste and litter. The environment and your wallet will thank you.

Holiday Closings

Indigenous Peoples/ Columbus Day, Veterans Day

- RMM Office closed Oct 14 and Nov 11

Thanksgiving

- RMM Office Closed Nov 28 and 29
- RSWC Closed Nov 28
- No curbside pick up Nov 28, one day delay for remainder of week

Don't Miss Your Recycling Day Again!

Enter your address at recycletopkins.org for a customized calendar of recycling collection dates.

Sign up for automatic reminders via phone, email, text, and more.

Community Outreach

Look for us at these upcoming community events:

Brooktondale Apple Festival
October 19th

America Recycles Day
TBA

Recycling Food Scraps Takes a Village



Recycling Assistant Tim Shutts loads food scrap containers into the collection vehicle.

Collecting food scraps from residents requires the efforts of many dedicated people. Drop Spot attendants are crucial for providing excellent customer service and ensuring effective collection, and our Recycling Assistant works hard to collect material from many locations for delivery to the Recycling and Solid Waste Center. It is then transferred to Cayuga Compost in Trumansburg. Many thanks to everyone involved, including the residents who participate!

ReBusiness Spotlight: Ulysses Library

The Ulysses Philomathic Library, located in the Village of Trumansburg, recently contacted Tompkins County Recycling and Materials Management about optimizing its practices in regards to the 4R's—reduce, reuse, recycle, and rebuy. Staff worked with the business to conduct a waste assessment and provide recommendations for improvement. Join the hundreds of other businesses in Tompkins County that have taken part in the ReBusiness Partners program. Is your business interested in reducing waste? Contact us today at recycletopkins.org.



The Ulysses Philomathic Library.

Advanced Compost Class Series

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County is offering an Advanced Compost series with 3 classes in October. Go beyond compost basics and "dig deeper" into the art and science of composting in this three-class series:

- Class 1 - Oct. 10th, types of outdoor bins, and the science of the compost process
 - Class 2 - Oct. 17th, compost's helpful role in the soil, testing and use
 - Class 3 - Oct. 24th, troubleshooting and advanced composting techniques
- Come to one class or them all. Go home with some new ideas, and with a more complete understanding of how composting works. The program is also offering a worm composting class on Oct. 5th, and a bokashi composting workshop on Nov. 23rd. Learn more and register for classes at cctompkins.org.

Contact Us...

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