



**RECYCLING AND
MATERIALS
MANAGEMENT
OF TOMPKINS COUNTY**

4R Times

VOLUME 6, ISSUE III

FALL 2021

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- NYS STYROFOAM BAN
- CATCH-ALL RECIPES
- TC'S OLD LANDILLS
- BYO BAG
- CATCH ALL RECIPES
- STUDENT'S GUIDE TO RECYCLING
- HHW AND HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Did You Know...

Meat, bones, and dairy can be composted through the Food Scraps Recycling program.



Student's Guide to Recycling

Now that the Fall college semester has begun, the Tompkins County Department of Recycling and Materials Management would like to take a moment to help students recycle right in Ithaca and Tompkins County.

- 1: Pick up a copy of the Curbside Recycling Guidelines for Tompkins County brochure at your grocery store service desk or municipal office, or use our [website](#).
- 2: Be warned, improper recycling set outs will be rejected at the curb to prevent recycling contamination. Bins with plastic bags, Styrofoam, electronics, and other unacceptable items will receive a red rejection sticker and won't be picked up.
- 3: Not sure when your recycling day is? [RecycleTompkins.org](#) has a Find My Recycling Day tool, and you can even sign up for automatic reminders via text, email, or phone call.
- 4: Wondering about a specific item? Try the What Do I Do With...? search engine at [RecycleTompkins.org](#)

Thanks, and don't forget to practice the 4R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rebuy.

NYS EPS Ban Coming in 2022

In 2020, New York State passed into law a ban targeting expanded polystyrene (EPS, often called Styrofoam), foodware containers and loose fill packaging. The ban affects restaurants, delis, food trucks, caterers, and grocery and retail stores, and will take effect in January of 2022. Expanded polystyrene is not recyclable, and is one of the most frequent sources of contamination in the recycling stream. New York will be joining several other states like Maine, Vermont, and Maryland in passing an EPS ban.



Packaging for uncooked eggs, meat, and fish are exempt, as are any pre-packaged food items sealed before delivery. Alternatives for EPS food packaging include paper, bagasse, and molded paper.

Holiday Closings

Indigenous Peoples Day
October 11th
Office closed.

Veterans Day
Nov 11th
Office closed.

Thanksgiving
Office closed 11/25-26.
No curbside recycling and RSWC Closed 11/25, one day delay for rest of week.

Tompkins Trust Co Shred Day

Free shredding
 Oct. 16th, 9-Noon
 at East Hill Plaza

Household Hazardous Waste Events

October 16th
November 20th

[Recycle
 Tompkins.org/
 HHW](http://RecycleTompkins.org/HHW)

Maintaining Tompkins County's Old Landfills

TCRMM staff work hard every year to maintain two closed landfills in Tompkins County. A large part of this work is managing leachate, which is formed when rainwater passes through the landfills. This liquid must be captured, stored, and removed for hazardous waste processing. Staff monitor how much leachate has accumulated, and conduct testing of groundwater in the area.



Testing equipment used to monitor the landfill wells.

Save Some Green, BYO Bag

Save some green, bring your own bags.

Paper bags cost 5¢ each and waste trees and water.

Bring your own reusable bags every time you shop.



Plastic carryout bags have been banned in New York State, but did you know that paper bags can also have a big environmental impact? The best way to save trees, water, and reduce waste overall is to bring your own reusable bag to the grocery store. It's safe, convenient, and will even save you \$.05 per bag compared to paying for single use paper bags. That adds up! Keep a bag or two in a

convenient location like a car, purse, or backpack, and be sure to clean your bags regularly. Cloth bags can go right in the washing machine along with other clothes and linens.

Reduce Food Waste with Catch-All Recipes

If you find yourself frequently composting fresh produce and leftovers, you might benefit from learning a few "catch-all" recipes. These are delicious dishes that can be easily pulled together from disparate ingredients to use them up before spoiling. Examples include:

- Use up vegetables with [Ugly Vegetable Pasta](#) from chef Joel Gamoran
- Add almost anything to a [Fridge Cleanout Frittata](#)
- And for fun, Repurpose Thanksgiving leftovers into [Mashed Potato Apple Cider Donuts](#)

For even more recipes, including applications for specific food items, check out [SaveTheFood.com's recipe listing page](#).

Contact Us...

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