



RECYCLING MATTERS

FOR A WASTE-FREE COLLAR CITY

Battery Recycling

Alkaline, non-alkaline, lithium-ion, rechargeable, not....

Batteries can be confusing, with lots of categories and no statewide standard for recycling and/or disposing of them. This issue of Recycling Matters will cover different types of batteries, and the best method of disposal to make sure everyone stays safe! As well, stay tuned for updates on our **battery drop-off program** at City Hall (and a few other locations). More details will be in the next issue!

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BATTERY RECYCLING

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Types of Batteries

There are lots of battery types. First, determine if your battery is rechargeable or not. Rechargeable batteries should not be thrown out or put into your curbside recycling bin. If you are able to see the battery, or remove it from the device it's in, there should be an indication written on it. Sometimes it will say rechargeable, but other times you will need to use the chemical makeup to determine that instead. Alkaline, zinc-carbon, and lithium-ion are all examples of common chemical makeups.

Not safe in your household garbage:

- NiMH (Nickel Metal Hydride)
- NiCad/NiCD (Nickel Cadmium)
- Li-ion (Lithium-ion)



Pictured: A green Nickel Metal Hydride battery pack, and a black lithium-ion battery.

These three types of batteries are **rechargeable**, which typically can be brought to a retail location, such as Lowe's, Staples, and Home Depot at no charge. If these batteries are put into your recycling or garbage bins, they can cause fires harming our Sanitation team and equipment!

Not commonly recycled battery types:

- Alkaline
- Zinc-Carbon
- Button-cell or coin



Pictured: Two silver button-cell batteries and a handful of household zinc-carbon batteries.

These types of batteries are single-use. You'll find them in TV remotes, children's toys, watches, hearing aids, and more. In order to dispose of them safely, please complete the following steps: 1. tape both ends of the battery with a non-conductive tape (electrical tape is what we recommend). 2. put the batteries in your curbside garbage bin.

Community News

Girl Scouts Troop 1165

The annual string lights recycling program closed out its third successful year in January! The City partnered with Girl Scouts Troops 1165, 1303 and 1435. 1165 is a Troy-based troop led by Jamie LaMora and Alicia DeSieno.

Jamie has been involved with the Girl Scouts for 15 years, and Alicia for four.

"I volunteered with my oldest daughter's troop when she was in first grade. When my second child was ready to be a girl scout, there was no troop for her, so it was a no-brainer. I was just going to lead," LaMora said.

This year's program has done wonders to spread the word about string lights' recyclability.

"It puts out that you don't think of string lights as a recyclable item. It's spreading awareness, which is nice," DeSieno said. She also noted that friends and family had given her their lights to contribute to the program.



Pictured: A Girl Scout drops off a decorated barrel to the Troy Police Department.

Troops 1165, 1303 and 1435 collaborated to divert 763 pounds of string lights,

totaling at \$305 dollars. Troop 1165 opted to donate their funds to the Troy High School Food Pantry.

"It's [their peers]. We have kids in Troy High and Troy Middle School and [the troop] knows they could directly help their peers in the community," DeSieno said.



Pictured: Girl Scouts from troop 1165 planting tulip bulbs at Knickerbacker Park.

Next year, the troop hopes to see the program be replicated in other areas of the County and expand.

"We'll be talking to other troops to see if they're interested in reaching out to their cities or counties.... and starting a program too," DeSieno said.

While this was troop 1165's first time collaborating for the string lights program, their scouts have done a variety of environmental projects in the past.

"We cleaned Knickerbacker Park in Troy. We... helped plant 200 tulip bulbs around the fountain [that was] restored," LaMora said. They also regularly participate in activities related to Earth Day, which is in April, annually.

To stay up to date on happenings with troop 1165, follow them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/troop1165>. You can also find the troop's events on their website at <http://www.gstroop1165.org>.

Recycling Bins are BACK!

Choose from pick-up and drop-off options

In case you missed it, our recycling bins are back in stock. Choose from 16-gallon or 22-gallon sizes, and the following pick-up and drop-off options:

Pick-up options:

- **City Hall**, 433 River St, Suite 5001 (Mayor's Office).
Monday - Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm
- **Department of Public Works**, 3118 7th Ave.
Monday - Friday, 7:30am - 2:30pm



Drop-off options:

- **Call the Department of Public Works** to schedule a recycling bin drop-off at your residence. There may be a wait time associated with this option. The phone number for our DPW Dispatcher is **(518) 270-4579**.



Pictured: Two blue recycling bins with white logos printed on them.

Upcoming Events

COMMUNITY-BASED SUSTAINABLE EVENTS

TROY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FACILITY (ALAMO) OPEN

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 to 1

Services: food scrap drop-off, pallet pick-up, mulch pick-up

EARTH DAY CLEANUPS

Information and registration TBA

CITYWIDE TRASH BARREL PROGRAM

View the Frequently Asked Questions at www.troyny.gov/cleanstreets

2023 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENTS

Information TBA. Updates will be posted at www.troyny.gov/hhw

BATTERY DROP OFF PROGRAM

Details in our next Recycling Matters newsletter!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK