



# RECYCLING MATTERS

FOR A WASTE-FREE COLLAR CITY



## WHAT'S INSIDE OUR NEWSLETTER:

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## Happy Holidays!

Happy December, and happy holidays to all who celebrate! As we all get ready to decorate (or if you have already), here are our recommendations for reducing, reusing, and recycling this holiday season.

Please contact us at [recycling@troyny.gov](mailto:recycling@troyny.gov) or by phone at (518) 279-7313 for other Troy businesses and/or organizations to feature in this newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you!

## Let's talk tanglers

**Tanglers** are items which damage the machines at recycling facilities. These items can include:

- clothing hangers
- string lights
- plastic bags
- camera film
- hoses
- clothing
- cords



To make sure our recycling facilities can keep doing their job, please don't place these items in your recycling bins!

Most of the items in this list can be kept out of the trash. Clothing hangers, hoses, and clothing can be donated; string lights can be recycled in our holiday light recycling program (more details below!); cords can be recycled at an electronics collection event. Camera film, is neither recyclable or donatable, so it must be thrown out.

## Reducing Holiday Waste: resources

<https://www.colorado.edu/center/2021/11/03/waste-reduction-during-holidays>

<https://blog.epa.gov/2016/12/21/creative-ways-to-cut-your-holiday-waste/>

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# Community News

## Collar City Clean Up

What happens when a pandemic hits and you end up... bored? Julie Victoria, creator of Collar City Clean Up, stumbled across a way to pass the time and make friends during Fall of 2020 - walking the streets of Troy and picking up litter.

It all began when Julie started walking after she got off work. She noticed litter, and decided to take action. "I noticed a lot of trash and was like, 'Maybe I could get some friends to join in,'" Julie said.

**A year later, Collar City Clean Up has collected 2,400 pounds of litter from the streets of Troy in collaboration with the City of Troy's Sanitation Team.** Among this trash, some of the most common items are food packaging, disposable vapes, and the occasional diaper.



Pictured: a large group of people posed on a street corner with full bags of garbage.

Ailise Schendorf, volunteer and social media wiz, joined because it was a great way to make new friends. "It gives you the opportunity to walk around for an hour and meet people," she said.

What started off as Julie's personal way to pass the time became a well-known community effort. **One person became a few, which became many - sometimes almost 30 people will show up to their clean ups.**

Ailise, who handles Collar City Clean Up's social media, posts the location for the clean up on Mondays. Clean ups are on Thursdays, but right now the group is taking a break for winter. Their Instagram handle is **@collarcitycleanup**.

**"Whenever you can come, come," Ailise said.** "If you can come for fifteen minutes, just let us know. It doesn't have to be the whole hour or every single week."

The group meets at the corner street at 6 PM. If you plan on joining, respond to their poll in their Instagram story so they know to wait for you. Once everyone arrives, quick intros are made, bags and gloves are handed out, and the group breaks into pairs. From then on it's divide and conquer for the next hour. At the end, all the litter the group picked up is weighed.

For a map of previous clean ups (and the amount of litter picked up, visit [goo.gl/maps/m3P4vhvWi7tRUcmt9](http://goo.gl/maps/m3P4vhvWi7tRUcmt9)



Pictured: Collar City Clean Up's Google map with past cleanups pinned, as well as amount of litter picked up.

# Holiday Light Recycling Program: Now 'til January 15th!

It doesn't matter if you're the type of person to get out your string lights November 1st, December 1st, or any time after that to decorate - your broken, non-working string lights are **recyclable** through our special collection program at the following locations listed below. You can bring your old string lights to one of 11 locations throughout Troy. This program is in partnership with Boy Scouts Troop #2526 - a huge thank you to them for collaborating with us again this year!

## Drop-off locations:

- Troy Fire Houses 1-4 and 6
  - Locations:  
<http://www.troyny.gov/departments/fire-department/>
- Police Department (55 State Street)
- City Hall (433 River Street, first floor lobby)
- Public Works Garage (3118 7th Ave)
- Public Utilities/Water Plant (25 Water Plant Road)
- Downtown Troy Post Office (400 Broadway)
- Rensselaer County Office Building (1600 7th Avenue, rear entrance)



Pictured: members of Boy Scout Troop #2526 standing in front of barrels wrapped in paper with bows and other decorations.

## Upcoming Events

COMMUNITY-BASED SUSTAINABLE EVENTS

### FOOD SCRAPS DROP-OFFS - TROY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FACILITY

THURSDAYS, 9 TO 1

### FOOD SCRAPS DROP-OFFS - TROY FARMER'S MARKET

SATURDAYS, 9 TO 1 AT THE ATRIUM

### HOLIDAY LIGHT RECYCLING PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 15TH THROUGH JANUARY 15TH  
DROP-OFF LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT TROY

### CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

BEGINS DECEMBER 26

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