

Spotlight on Sustainability

From Your Ontario County Eco-Heroes

2018 WASTE DIVERSION COLLECTION EVENT TOTALS

Thanks for your help Ontario County Residents! Due to your participation in the County's 2018 collection events we diverted...

- ❖ **E-WASTE EVENT**
 - ❖ 489 participants
 - ❖ 51.28 tons collected
- ❖ **SPRING AND FALL RESIDENTIAL TIRE COLLECTION**
 - ❖ 21.31 tons collected
- ❖ **SPRING AND FALL PAPER SHREDDING EVENTS**
 - ❖ 7.52 tons collected
- ❖ **PUMPKIN COLLECTION**
 - ❖ 195 participants
 - ❖ 3.25 tons collected

7 tips to make this an eco-friendly holiday season:

1. **Rethink your packaging** it's one of the biggest waste contributors. Cut back on paper and cardboard by opting for reusable tins, bags and boxes. They're the gift that keeps on giving.
2. If you feel the need to go the wrapping route, **get creative and find fun or festive reusable or recyclable materials** you already have around the house.
3. **Or use wrapping paper that's already made of recycled paper.** Most wrapping paper is recyclable but stay away from shiny, glittery, or velvety papers
4. **Cut back on plastic ribbons or bows** that can't go in your recycling bin. Or find a crafty way to reuse them.
5. **Bring back the e-card fad.** The mantle-life of holiday cards is pretty short considering the waste they create. You can save money and the environment by going digital or at least segmenting your list for those who really need a physical card.
6. **Bring leftover items to your local food bank or soup kitchen.** It will keep you feeling warm and fuzzy long after the holidays are over.
7. **Bring your Christmas tree to a yard waste drop-off location** when you're finally ready to let it go. It's tempting to just leave it at the curb just like household waste. But it's a TREE, which means it should be disposed of like one.



'Tis the season for holiday shopping! This means plastic bags from all the stores you shop at. On average each family uses **1,500** plastic bags each year! But only **1%** of them end up being recycled. This holiday season instead of always accepting a plastic bag at each store, consider bringing a reusable bag with you.

Tips to Save Electricity During the Holiday Season

- ❖ Put your holiday lights on a timer to make sure they do not accidentally stay on all night long. A timer can also help with nights you are out holiday shopping and don't have time to run home and turn them on.
- ❖ Did you know LED holiday lights use 80-90% less energy than incandescent lights? So be sure to choose wisely when purchasing new lights.
- ❖ Shorten your holiday light season. Consider waiting to put up lights closer to the holidays and taking them down soon after they are over.

And don't forget! During the holiday season Lowe's collects dead or unwanted strings of lights for recycling.