



Waste Reduction & Recycling in Tompkins County

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Overview

Mission: To manage the solid waste of Tompkins County in a manner that is

- Environmentally sound
- Cost-effective
- Socially responsible
- Safe



Goals:

- 85% waste diversion by 2030
- Current waste diversion: 60%



Timeline

- 1995 – RSWC began operations
- 2000 – Permanent household hazardous waste facility began operation (at RSWC)
- 2001 – RSWC began accepting electronics
- 2008 – Finger Lakes ReUse, Inc. opens doors
- 2011 - Single Stream Recycling
- 2013 – Expand food scraps recycling program



Recycling and Solid Waste Center (RSWC)

- Tompkins County owns
- Casella operates
- 160 Commercial Ave,
Ithaca
- Open 7 am – 3:30 pm
Monday - Saturday



Recycling and Solid Waste Center

- Curbside recyclables and garbage
- Electronics Plus
 - Plastic bags
 - Large rigid plastics
 - Batteries
 - Propane tanks
 - Tires
 - CFL bulbs and tubes
 - Fire extinguishers
- Household Hazardous Waste
- Food scraps and FOG
- Scrap metal
- Yard Waste
- Textiles



Recycling Requirements

- Curbside/Single-Stream
 - Rinse and empty containers
 - Size requirements (2" x 2" x 2")
 - Stack cardboard (4' x 4' x 4')
 - No plastic bags, food, or styrofoam
 - Limitations on size and weight of bins



Recycling Requirements

- Additional Recyclables at Public Drop Off
 - Electronics and most appliances
 - Large rigid plastics
 - Plastic bags & films (clean and dry)



New Rules for Plastic Recycling

- Only include plastics #1, 2, and 5
- Reduce contamination
 - Empty and rinse all jars and containers to remove all food residue
 - When in doubt, keep it out
 - *No wishcycling!*
- New list of acceptable items for Plastic Bags and Film and Large Rigid Plastic drop off at RSWC

Clean the Stream, Recycle Right



ReBusiness Partners



- Designed to help businesses, schools, and organizations practice the 4Rs:
 - Reduce
 - Reuse
 - Recycle
 - Rebuy
- Partners receive:
 - a free waste assessment
 - ongoing technical assistance
 - desk-side recycling bins and decals
 - potential compost subsidy
 - public recognition



Educational Outreach

- Presentations for schools, businesses, and organizations
- RSWC Tours
- Tabling at fairs, festivals, and events
- Summer camps
- America Recycles Day
- School lesson plans
- Brochures and handouts



Partnership with Cayuga Compost

- Contract with local excavating/topsoil company
- Operates windrow composting for food scraps and yard waste
- DEC Permit Modification received (5,000 TPY food scraps)
- 2018 Food Scraps Transfer Building at RSWC




Cayuga Compost
A Division of P & S Excavating, LLC

Marketing and Uses for Compost

- Major market growth in the Finger Lakes Region
- Compost products include topsoil blends, pure compost, and mulch
- Compost uses include:
 - Erosion control
 - Landscaping
 - Soil amendments
 - Nursery beds
 - Turf establishment & maintenance
 - Fruit & vegetable production



Food Scraps Drop Spots

- 14 locations
- 40,796 users
- 303 tons diverted
- 20 by 2020 (added 2 in 2018)



Food Waste Donation and Recovery

- Food Waste Prevention
 - Residential
 - Outreach campaign
 - Interactive resources
 - Commercial
 - Case studies
 - Tracking tools
- Food Donation
 - Food banks & pantries
 - Donation centers
 - Neighborhood food hubs
 - Partnership with FDN



Friendship Donations Network rescues fresh, nutritious food that would otherwise be discarded from stores and farms and redistributes it to our neighbors in need. We provide food donations to hunger relief programs that serve more than 2,000 people a week, and divert 1,000 lbs. of good food from landfills every day.



Donate

Businesses & Farms

Friendship Donations Network accepts donations of edible but unsaleable food from stores, restaurants, and farms and redistributes it to food pantries and other outreach organizations to help our neighbors in need.

Contact us if you know of a local business that could be added to our list of food donors.

Individuals

Donate extra produce from your garden or CSA share to one of FDN's Neighborhood Food Hubs located throughout Tompkins County (July–October). For details: friendshipdonations.org/hubs

DID YOU KNOW?

Dates on labels are not required by federal law and do not indicate food safety. Foods with expired date labels can still be donated to Friendship Donations Network.

If handled correctly, foods are safe to eat after the date, though they may lose quality.

BEST IF USED BY
APR 23

Support

FDN's success depends on broad-based community support. If you'd like to support our mission of rescuing food and reducing hunger, you can make a secure credit card donation online or mail your check to:

Friendship Donations Network
1013 West Martin Luther King Jr. / State Street
Ithaca, NY 14850

Receive

FDN provides fresh, nutritious food donations to community programs, including meal programs, food pantries, low-income housing communities, non-profit organizations and other grassroots distribution. Contact us if you know of a program that could help distribute food.

LEARN MORE AT

www.friendshipdonations.org

JOIN US ON:

f FriendshipDonations

t @FDNthaca

i @friendshipdonations



Friendship Donations Network, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization.

Public Space Recycling

- 9 stations installed at 8 locations
- Located in high pedestrian traffic areas



Waste Diversion Strategic Plan

- New Solid Waste Management Plan
- New opportunities with RSWC will help achieve increased waste diversion
- Grow programs
 - Waste Reduction
 - Organics Diversion (compost)
 - Reuse
 - Extended Producer Responsibility
- Strive towards 100% engagement





Questions?

Tompkins County Recycling and
Materials Management

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