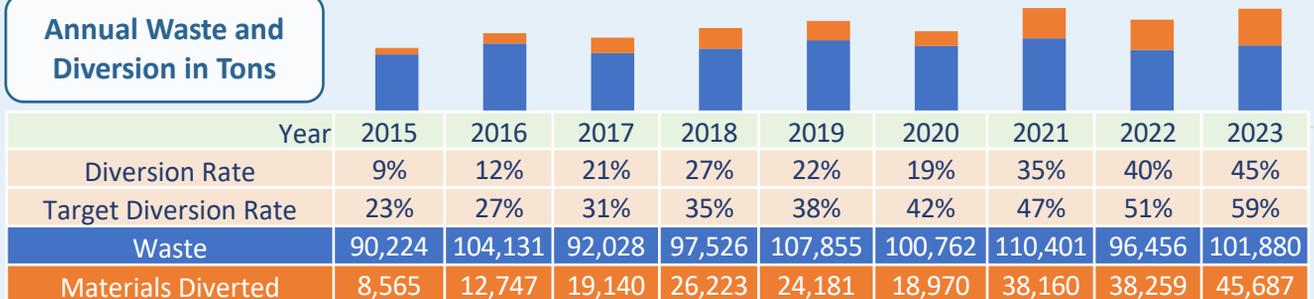


2023 DEPARTMENT PROJECTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

	# OF EVENTS	# OF HOUSEHOLDS	POUNDS COLLECTED	2024 Event Dates*
Collection Events Totals	16	2,603	353,239	2024 Event Dates*
Household Hazardous Waste	2	1237	145,417	Apr 20 Sep 21
Electronic Waste	2	863	90,972	May 18 Oct 12
Pumpkin	4	89	3,390	Nov 2 Nov 9
Paper Shredding	3	273	29,300	Apr 12 May 3 Jun 8 Oct 4
Residential Tire	3	295	50,800	May 4 Jul 20 Sep 7
Mattress	2	119	33,360	Apr 13 Aug 24
★ NEW THIS YEAR: Rigid Plastics				June 1

*Registration required for most events, visit OntarioCountyRecycles.org for details.

Annual Waste and Diversion in Tons



Waste diversion percentage is calculated by taking the total tons of material recycled divided by the total tons of waste generated within the county.

Recycling isn't one size fits all. Some materials may be recyclable, but not able to be collected with your household recycling. That's where special collection programs come in. Programs include collection events, drop-off locations, and mail-in options that accept hard to manage items to keep them out of the landfill or from clogging up the recycling stream. In 2023 the Department:



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS PROGRAMS



- Updated the website to highlight collection events, mail-in, and drop-off special collection programs.
- Had a record number of special collection event participants, demonstrating a public demand for programs.
- Increased online registration for additional events, allowing for ease of participation.
- Added a combined 1,388 subscribers to our email lists.
- Created & implemented "Why Wait" campaigns, encouraging residents to take advantage of free recycling programs open year-round for Paint, Stains, and Primers and Electronics.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Over 20 tabling events & presentations given by Department staff. A few highlights:

- Municipal Clerks Presentation- provided education and resources to Ontario County Municipal Clerk's Association.
- Marcus Whitman- presentation to all High School and Middle School students regarding importance of organics diversion.
- The Department supported municipalities and school districts with funding and/or technical assistance.
- Town of Geneva (Finger Lakes Reuse contract), Town of Farmington (mattress collection), Town of Canadice (waste assessment), Town of Victor (waste assessment), City of Canandaigua (backyard composting program)
- Marcus Whitman (program support and education), Midlakes (waste assessment)

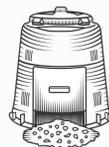


A waste assessment is a comprehensive look at the amount and composition of the waste generated by local government or school district operations. It provides insight into the waste stream identifying program opportunities to increase diversion and reduce overall waste.



BACKYARD COMPOSTING AND ORGANICS

- A total of 370 backyard composting kits were sold in 2023. There was unexpected high demand and when the first 250 sold out quickly, the Department asked for more funding for additional units.
- It is estimated that 30% of household waste can be diverted for backyard composting. Based on the number of backyard composting units distributed by the Department between 2019-2024 and the average waste per household in Ontario County in 2023 the Department conservatively estimates that over 1 million pounds of waste was diverted in 2023.



In 2012 The Town of Gorham requested funding from the County to start a small organics program at their transfer station, with 50 pilot households. In 2022 they expanded the program to include 4 food waste drop-off locations, and in 2023 they diverted over 10,000 pounds of organics from disposal in the landfill. Small investments can create positive momentum and significant change in a community!

Over half of the school districts in the County have completed waste assessments and 3 school districts have established food waste diversion programs.

LEADING BY EXAMPLE....

- Purchased and installed new 2 bin waste & recycling systems for County lobbies.
- Developed new signage for employee recycling education in common areas.
- Reusable dishes and cutlery used for dine-in employees for Ontario County Employee Picnic as well as composting of food scraps and paper goods.
- Adopt-a-highway clean-up of County Road 46 organized and promoted by the Department.
- The organics diversion program at the Ontario County Jail celebrated its 7th year, collecting over 26,000 pounds of material in 2023.

To see what else we've been up to, visit OntarioCountyRecycles.org