



# State of New York County of Broome Government Offices

## Environmental Management Council

Jason T. Garnar, County Executive · Larry Lepak, Chair

**Broome County Environmental Management Council (EMC)  
Notes from meeting held Thursday, September 12th, 2019 at 5:30pm  
Decker Room, Broome County Library  
185 Court Street, Binghamton, NY**

**Present:**

**MAL:** Bill Heaviside, Dylan Horvath, Jo Render, Tony Lubzanski, Chris Burger, Larry Lepak

**Leg Reps:** Susan Ryan, Mike Tanzini (Office of the Legislature)

**Staff:** Beth Lucas, Senior Planner

**Others:** Debra Smith (DSWM), Andrew Perry, Hannah Grunder, Shalin Patel, Marion Irwin, Christine Clifton

1. The meeting was **convened at 5:30pm.**
2. **Presentation: Broome County Solid Waste Management Update, Debra Smith, Director**

Debra Smith, the Director of Broome County's Division of Solid Waste Management gave an update about projects and programs in the division, along with information about relevant state policies and how they impact division operations. The presentation is attached for more details.

- Issues discussed included landfill updates (new cell construction, leachate disposal), China waste import restrictions impact on recycling program, NY plastic bag ban, NY food donation and food scrap recycling regulations, educational outreach initiatives, product stewardship initiatives and NY Product Stewardship Council priorities, residential program updates (HHW, e-waste, compost, battery, EcoCenter, waste oil)
- There was extensive discussion about the issue of waste import restrictions and whether we would be able to utilize local markets as a destination for materials. Debra indicated that this is a possibility, but quality requirements may be stricter, so take adjustment by the materials recycling facilities.
- There was also additional discussion about the plastic bag ban and whether Broome County would institute the optional 5 cent fee for the use of paper bags (3 cents to NYS, 2 cents to County). Debra indicated that fees obtained by the County must be used to purchase and distribute reusable bags, but there was a lot of uncertainty at the state level about how to implement that, so it would be best to wait until we get more direction before pursuing that course of action. There was some discussion about the costs and benefits of being early adopters of the policy.
- There was some discussion about the new Food Donation and Food Scrap Recycling regulations. Facilities are exempt if there is no composting facility within 25 miles of their site (which is true for those in Broome). There were questions about the potential for establishing a composting facility in Broome County to address this. Debra indicated that the Division has looked at this, but there are issues to overcome for that to move forward including barriers associated with the siting of a facility.

### **3. Announcements/ Privilege of the Floor/Items of Interest**

- A focus group is being held in Owego on September 23<sup>rd</sup> by the Nurture Nature Center as part of a research project with NOAA, about the use of NWS flood forecast and warning tools.
- The Upper Susquehanna Watershed Forum is being held on October 1<sup>st</sup> at the Binghamton University Center for Excellence. This will be a full day of speakers, exhibitors, and events focused on the conservation of the Upper Susquehanna River Watershed.

### **4. Administrative Items**

- Membership – Beth reminded the group that at the next meeting in November we will focus on items for 2020 including any new memberships or reappointments. Beth will contact voting members prior to the next meeting with more details for review.

### **5. Climate Smart Communities and Clean Energy Communities**

- Broome County has received notification that we are official a bronze certified Climate Smart Community. An official announcement is expected in late in September. Beth anticipates that there will be a Green Team meeting to organize relevant County departments and partners later in the year.
- Beth noted that there are several areas that we can start addressing in the short term to move additional climate initiatives forward. These include formalizing climate-smart County operations through documented policies, preparation of various educational materials, further collection of data and information needed for a full greenhouse gas inventory, and completion of a fleet inventory.
- In July Broome County Planning and Public Works submitted three applications to the Climate Smart Communities grant program for the following: a grant to replace cooling systems at several County facilities with more efficient, leak-proof systems; installation of wireless monitoring systems on the County flood-control structures, enhancing our early warning capabilities and improving efficiency of services, and; drainage improvements in the Village of Deposit, mitigating repetitive flooding in that area.

### **6. CAC and Committee Updates**

- No CAC reps were present.
- **Photo Show Committee** – A meeting will be scheduled in the fall to begin planning for the Show in May 2020.
- **Work Plan Committee** – Bill circulated updated language from the bylaws, based on items voted on at the July meeting.

7. Meeting is **adjourned at 7:30pm**. Next meeting will be held on Thursday November 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm in the Decker Room at the Broome County Library. The main focus will be administrative items for 2020.

# Broome County Solid Waste Program

Debra Smith  
Director of Solid Waste  
Division of Solid Waste Management  
2019

# Landfill Operations

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- We are currently placing waste in Section IV Cell 3
- Section IV Cell 4 is under construction
  - Began in April 2019
  - Anticipate completion before the end of 2019
- Leachate Generation
  - Pre-treated leachate is being sent to the Endicott Waste Water Treatment Plant

# Recycling Program

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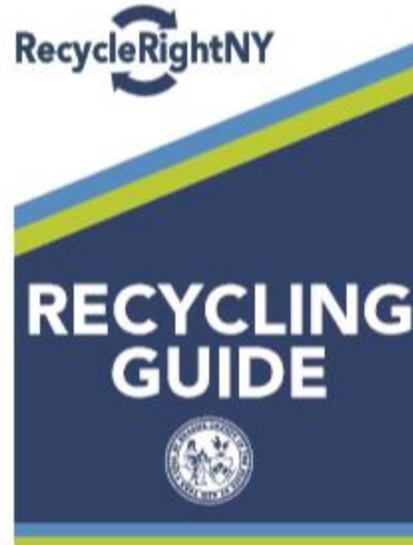


# Recycling Program

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- China Waste Import Restrictions
  - November 2017- Bans 24 types of recyclables and reduces contamination to 0.5%
- NYS plastic bag ban
  - March 1, 2020
- NYS Food Donation & Food Scraps Recycling
  - January 1, 2022

# Educational Outreach



**BROOME COUNTY  
DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**

607-778-2250

[WWW.GOBROOMECOUNTY.COM/SOLIDWASTE](http://WWW.GOBROOMECOUNTY.COM/SOLIDWASTE)

60 HAWLEY STREET, PO BOX 1766  
BINGHAMTON, NY 13901

**BROOME COUNTY DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT** 

## RECYCLING QUICK GUIDE

RECYCLE   EMPTY & RINSE		DO NOT RECYCLE	
 BOTTLES, JUGS & CONTAINERS	 GLASS	 IN STORE DROP OFF PLASTIC BAGS & WRAP	 STYROFOAM
 CARDBOARD & CARTONS	 PAPER & NEWSPAPER	 NO FOOD LEFT IN CONTAINERS	 TANGLERS (HOSE, WIRE, ROPE)

**WHEN IN DOUBT THROW IT OUT!** | 607.778.2250 | [WWW.GOBROOMECOUNTY.COM/SOLIDWASTE](http://WWW.GOBROOMECOUNTY.COM/SOLIDWASTE)

# RecycleRight NY

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- Recycle Right NY is a public outreach campaign
- One topic will be focused on each month
- On a regular basis we will begin to post educational information on the solid waste Facebook page



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Broome County Div. of Solid Waste

March 1 at 9:05 AM · 🌐

Help us improve recycling in 2019, and remember to recycle your aluminum and steel cans. Steel cans and aluminum cans can be recycled right in your curbside bins. Remember to empty and lightly rinse any food residue or liquids that could spill out. This helps increase the value of all recyclable materials by keeping them clean and dry. #RecycleRightNY #RecycleCans



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ABOUT BROOME COUNTY DIV. OF SOLID WASTE

Broome County Landfill

The Broome County Landfill provides year-round service to Broome County residents for the disposal o...

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# Wasted Food

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- What is wasted food?
- Reducing wasted food at home
- Create a “Eat First” box
- Minimize wasted food



**WASTED FOOD**  
HOW YOU CAN REDUCE  
WASTE & SAVE MONEY



**BROOME COUNTY**  
DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

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BINGHAMTON, NY 13901

# Product Stewardship

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- Product packaging and printed paper
- Paint Stewardship
- Batteries

# Residential Programs

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- Household Hazardous Waste & E-Waste collections
- Free compost & pallets
- Battery recycling
- Eco Center
- Waste oil, oil filters & antifreeze recycling

Thank you

Debra Smith

Director of Solid Waste

BC Div. of Solid Waste Management

607-778-2397

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Website: [www.gobroomecounty.com](http://www.gobroomecounty.com)