

**Albany UU's Coat Room Items are in RED** followed by contact person

- **Wine corks** (Barb Spink)
- **Aluminum tabs from cans** (Kathy Harris)  
Note: Or drop them off at the Ronald MacDonald House on Lake Street in Albany
- **Inkjet cartridges** (Carol Butt)  
Note: Inkjet cartridges can also be refilled at I fill Inkjets in Delmar will refill inkjet cartridges
- **Cell phones** (Carol Butt)
- **Clean, usable blankets, coats, mittens, and hats** (Carol Butt and Jan McCracken)
- **Clean paper egg cartons** (Dave Metz) Leave them open and stacked
- **Tyvek envelopes** (Deborah Vogel)
- **Fudge jars, jam jars and chili containers from Albany UU Fund Raisers:**  
Leave on shelf in the coat room
- **Plastic, metal and glass bottles and cans** (Children in the Edvalsen family collect them for their college fund) Place items in labeled bin for plastic, metal, and glass bottles (deposit only) at church.
- **Plastic Newspaper Bags:** (Kathy Harris)

**All Terracycle Programs click here:** (<https://www.terracycle.com/en-US/brigades>)

Items are packaged in a box (reused) and send to Terracycle using their pre-printed label. The following 3 categories of items must be sent separately. >100 other categories are available on the Terracycle site above. The categories are called "programs."



**3. Brita Recycling Program: --Chris Bystroff--** OVER 5 POUNDS, DRY Waste Sign up here: <https://www.terracycle.com/en-US/brigades/brita-brigade>.

Please do not include cardboard and paper box packaging with your shipments, as these can be recycled municipally.

**All Brita Products--SEE PHOTO BELOW: --Chris Bystroff:**



## Recycling Tips Outside of UU

### Appliances and Electronics:

- Check the ProTek recycling website: [protekrecycling.com](http://protekrecycling.com), phone: 518-720-6555

*NOTE: ProTek Recycling is a New York State registered electronic waste collection and recycling firm (DEC # 00838) which selects its downstream vendors with great care, ensuring that any end-of-life material that could potentially be hazardous is given only to companies vetted to meet strict recycling standards. In addition, its strict zero-landfill policy ensures that all material is discarded in an environmentally-friendly way.*

- NOTE: Recycle many electronic devices, working and non-working, at ProTek.  
ProTek has a several drop off locations, including one at 2550 9th Avenue, Watervliet, New York 12189. ProTek can also pick up devices/appliances.

### Batteries:

- Rechargeable batteries: Drop off at any large retail store that sells rechargeable batteries. By state law, these stores are required to collect them for recycling. (e.g., Home Depot)
- Non-rechargeable batteries: Throw out in the trash
- Municipal household hazardous waste collection programs also typically collect batteries. Drop-off only; do not use curbside bin.

### Books

- In Albany, do not put soft and hardcover books in your curbside recycling bin. Bring them to the paper shredding events held at the Washington Park Lakehouse.
- Donate them to Grassroots Givers.

- Donate them to the Colonie library on Thursdays from 11-1 at the rear of the building. You can get tax credit for them with a donation slip.
- Bethlehem Library has a book recycling bin but it is often full.

### Broken Items

Repair café <https://repaircafe.org/en/> or the book *Repair Revolution*.

- Repair Café, an international movement, is an event where people with skills at repairing many sorts of things volunteer to fix items that people bring for repairs so they don't have to be replaced.
- Repair Cafes have their roots in the Hudson Valley. Local events occur in the Hudson Valley, Schenectady County and Castleton. Look for them to start up again in the spring after a shut down due to COVID.

### Clear Clean Glass with no Plastic or Metal

*You may be very surprised to learn that less than half of the glass put into single stream recycling in Albany is actually recycled????*

Drop off clear, clean, glass jars and bottles which are free of metal and caps at the Honest Weight Food Coop. Paper labels can remain on the glass, but plastic labels should be removed.

The Co-op will bring these items to TOMRA Recycling Co.

### Clothes

- Wearable
  - The Capital City Mission
  - Grassroots Givers (Albany)
  - Consignment shops
  - Thrift stores
  - Unity House (Troy)
  - For complete list: <https://www.albany.com/home-improvement/tidying-up-donation-spots/>

- Unusable (All clothing, sheets and towels, purses and bags, ties, scarves and hats, coats and jackets, and all footwear, including sandals)
  - Residents and non-residents can drop these items off at 217 Vischer Ferry Road in Clifton Park.
  - Items are turned into rugs, carpet, insulation and other filler.

### Electronics:

- Bring used electronics to Best Buy.
- Bring used electronics to ????? next to the Albany Compost Station (Barb)

### Food Scraps:

- Use a vermiculture (worm bin) for food scraps in the home. This is an easy, cheap option for apartment dwellers and people who don't have a yard. Bokashi bins (anaerobic) are another indoor option that also can work well for in the home. If you'd like to know more about either of these food scrap composting options, contact Anne Marie Haber: [amhaber@aol.com](mailto:amhaber@aol.com)
- Utilize the City of Albany's composting program: <https://albanyrecycles.com/food-composting/>.
- Utilize the bin at the Troy Farmer's Market

### Holiday Shopping:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dbdMiEDHuY9D19VWwCH6yPOVSCl5-c0l/view?usp=sharing>

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1AajsDwllEBRtWGuVJ2eZdak4GZM3c88-/edit?usp=sharing&oid=103880185891345026142&rtpof=true&sd=true>

Local holiday shopping events:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jQQpRShO2walZwUzY58WHlrWQLwp7gim/view?usp=sharing>

## Household Items (reuse and recycling)

- Buy Nothing Albany
- Craig's List
- Historic Albany Warehouse: <https://www.historic-albany.org/warehouse>
- Habitat Re-Store

## Junk:

- Find junk dealers on NextDoor. They will pick up junk for free and make money by recycling metal.
- Junk collectors in your neighborhood may collect your old dead power tools, appliances, electronics, and batteries.
- Troy consumers can take a number of different materials to Brunswick Recycling Center (<https://www.townofbrunswick.org/page.php?p=6>).

## Light Bulbs and Batteries:

- Recycle fluorescent bulbs (both compact and tube types) at stores like Lowes.
- Place incandescent light bulbs, which are not recycled, in the trash.
- Municipal household hazardous waste collection programs also typically collect fluorescent bulbs and batteries.. ONLY by drop-off; do not use curbside bin.

## Metal:

- Take scrap metal to Ben Weitsman Company at Port of Albany which serves big AND small customers and receive compensation.
  - Mixed metal/plastic items can also be recycled at scrap metal yards if they are primarily made of metal. E-waste in that category should always be recycled at authorized e-waste recycling centers (such as transfer stations, Staples, etc.) There is a BIG market for scrap metal.

- Recycle stainless steel at scrap metal yards in Albany. Some communities, including Bethlehem and Guilderland, have transfer stations where scrap metal can be recycled.
- Recycle scrap metal items ONLY by drop off, not curbside bin

## Other

Recommended Documentary: <https://kissthegroundmovie.com/>

Center for Hard to Recycle Materials: <https://ecocycle.org/charm>

## Paper (with confidential information for shredding):

- Do not put confidential information in recycle bins
- Use dedicated paper bin at the transfer station for shredding???
- Use paper receptacles for shredding at each branch
- Bring shredding to Bethlehem shredding events (Limited to secure documents) or Albany shredding events (typically at Washington Park)
- Bins at SEFCU branches

## Paint

New York State is starting a paint recycling program for paint and similar products from both residential and commercial users. Paint should be in original containers with intact labels. Sites will accept up to 5 gallons per customer per visit though some sites may accept more. Local sites can be found at:

<https://www.paintcare.org/drop-off-sites/>. Additional info can be found at DEC's NYS Postconsumer Paint Collection Program website located at:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/120606.html>.

## Policy

**Food Donation and Food Scraps Recycling Law:**

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/114499.html>



Tracking the Future of Recycling Policy in Congress

<https://www.wastedive.com/news/tracking-the-future-of-us-recycling-policy-in-congress/570778/>

### Resources:

Local Towns: Recycling Information

#### Albany

<https://albanynyrecycles.com/rescom-recycling/>

Recycling Program Contact: Sonny Von Tiedemann

[svontiedemann@albanyny.gov](mailto:svontiedemann@albanyny.gov)

#### Bethlehem

[www.townofbethlehem.org](http://www.townofbethlehem.org)

Recycling Coordinator: Dan Lilkas-Rain [drain@townofbethlehem.org](mailto:drain@townofbethlehem.org) or 518-439-4955 ext 1510

#### Rensselaer

<https://rensselaerny.gov/City-Departments/public-works-solid-waste-department>

#### Saratoga

<https://www.saratogacountyny.gov/wp/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Recycling-Flyer-Single-Stream-Update-8-27-19.pdf>

#### Schenectady

<http://ccschenectady.org/composting-and-recycling>

#### Warren County

Zero Waste Warren County: (Tracy Frisch, founder): 518-692-8242

Recycle Right NY: <https://recyclerightny.org/> and <https://nysar3.org/>

### Reusable Gift Bags:

- Purchase these bags at Honest Weight.
- Ask Carol Butt to sew you some bags.
- Purchase from Etsy vendors, and Kari Smyth Design to purchase them.
- Make them yourself. Pillowcases, tablecloths, beach towels, shower curtains, newspapers, comics, and sheets work well as do cloth items easily obtained at Thrift Shops.

### Times Union Plastic Newspaper Bags

- Return bags to your paper deliverer – fill one bag with other bags and leave on stoop where deliverer can collect them.