



October 31, 2019

Happy Halloween!  
& Remember Candy Wrappers  
are NOT Recyclable!



## November Is a Stellar Environmental Month! Check Out These Great Events

- **Saturday, Nov. 2 – Fall Repair Café!**  
9 am – noon, The Bridge at 211, [211 Bridge Street](#). Skilled volunteers will fix and mend household items (including clothes) in need of attention.
- **Saturday, Nov. 2 – Household Hazardous Waste Collection,**  
8 am – noon, Salem High School, 77 Willson Street. \$20 per car. Cash only. Open to Salem and Beverly residents.
- **Sunday, November 3 – Great Pumpkin Drop**  
Noon - 3 PM, Dead Horse Beach parking lot, [Intersection of Memorial Dr. & Restaurant Row](#) (Salem Willows). What better way is there to wrap up Halloween?
- **Saturday, November 23 - Annual Clothing and Textile Drive,**  
8 AM - 1 PM, Riley Plaza Parking Lot (across from Post Office)

Scroll down for more information on each of these events and more.

## Don't Trash It, Fix It! At the Fall Repair Cafe

Saturday, November 2, 9 AM - Noon,  
at the [Bridge at 211](#)

SalemRecycles and The Bridge at 211 are co-sponsoring this community-based gathering of skilled volunteers who will mend, repair and

restore your broken items, keeping them from the waste stream.

Repairs include:

- Sewing by hand or machine: mend, patch, hem, darn, fix buttons
- Sharpening scissors & knives
- Tinkering with electronics and gadgets; no TVs
- Rewiring and fixing lamps
- Gluing ceramics
- Basic jewelry repairing
- Repairing furniture and wood gluing
- And just about anything that can be repaired with adhesives or fasteners, such as basic shoe repairs.



Please bring any replacement items that might be required, such as a new zipper or electric cords & plugs. If your electronics require testing after repair, bring what is needed to do that (i.e., light bulb, DVD, VHS tape).

Bring only one or two items (more will be allowed only if time is available). The last items will be taken at 11:30.

This is open only to Salem residents. Park in the small lot at 211 Bridge St, or park nearby. Enter via lower level door on Bridge Street.

## The Great Pumpkin Drop Sunday, November 3, Noon - 3 PM

Give your old pumpkins new life!

Send them to pumpkin heaven at this fun community composting event in the parking lot at Dead Horse Beach.

[Black Earth Compost](#) will be on hand with a truck, complete with basketball hoop for those who are willing to try it out!



Check this out—SAFE is providing six months of free curbside composting--valued at \$50--to the first 10 Salem residents who sign up for this service. (Only open to those who are not already subscribers.)

**Why compost?** Disposing of food waste is expensive & creates greenhouse gases and other toxic emissions. **Composting is nature's ultimate recycling, turning left overs and food waste into healthy rich organic soil!**

**Note:** Please do not drop off pumpkins before or



after this event. They will be trashed.

Sponsored by SAFE (Salem Alliance for the Environment),  
SalemRecycles & Black Earth Compost.

## ???? Ask SalemRecycles

This is a new feature of our newsletter.  
If you have a question, send it to  
Micaela Guglielmi at [mguglielmi@salem.com](mailto:mguglielmi@salem.com)

**Q:** I'm the kind of person who likes to recycle or compost everything I can, including small pieces of paper. **Can I recycle or compost cash register receipts?**

**A:** Unfortunately, **neither**. Most receipts are printed on thermal paper which is coated with **Bisphenol-A (BPA)**, a toxic chemical. **These receipts must be thrown in the trash.**



While we're on the subject, please note that **any pieces of paper smaller than a credit card cannot be recycled**. They fall through the cracks at the sorting facility and are trashed. Little bits of paper can be composted.

For more information on paper coated with BPA, visit <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/green-chemistry/bpa-thermal-paper>

**Not sure** if something can be recycled? Ask the [Recyclopedia](#), an online resource that is part of Recycle Smart MA. You will be given a clear answer.

## And More....

### Household Hazardous Waste Day

Saturday, November 2, 8 am – noon, Salem High School, 77 Willson Street.

\$20 per car, Cash only. Open to Salem and Beverly residents.

All kinds of things from chemicals to cleaning supplies, car batteries, yard poisons, and much more can be disposed of at this event.

Keep these dangerous materials out of the waste stream! For a complete list of accepted materials, please visit:

[https://www.salem.com/sites/salemma/files/pages/hhwd\\_flyer\\_20](https://www.salem.com/sites/salemma/files/pages/hhwd_flyer_20)

## Good News for Recycling in Salem

Salem's recycling efforts are improving! A recent audit by Waste Management showed a drop in contamination, from a high of 28% last year, down to 14.8% this fall. Our goal is 10%. We're getting close...keep up the good work!



Plastic bags, plastic film, food waste, wood, scrap metal, styrofoam and tangles continue to be a problem. Tangles include clothing, electrical cords, linens, etc. Here's a short, amusing video on tangles at the recycling sorting facility:



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