



October 2021 Newsletter

It's spooky season in Salem, and with autumn in full swing we have events and tips galore. Hold onto all your items for the upcoming Textile and TerraCycle Collection in November, learn what to do with all those leaves and pumpkins, and get insight Salem's recycling streams.

Nov 20th - Textile & TerraCycle Collection Drive



Did you know that [every second, a garbage truck's worth of clothing is dumped or burned?](#) The fashion industry has a sustainability problem and Salem is trying to do its part to at least reuse fabric that would otherwise head to the incinerator. Do your part and bring your items to this bi-annual event. We also collect difficult to recycle items through TerraCycle.

Saturday, November 20th from 8am-1pm at Riley Plaza

DROP OFF -- clean & dry clothing, sneakers, shoes, boots, slippers, belts, ties, purses, stuffed animals, comforters, sheets, blankets, table linens, and curtains.

ANY CONDITION -- stained, worn, or torn, as long as they're clean and dry

[TerraCycle](#) Collection

We're collecting FIVE TerraCycle brigades. Please keep different streams separate.

- **Swiffers:** save all used, dried Swiffer pads.
- **Razors:** save all brands of reusable and disposable razors, blades, & cartridges, as well as any flexible or rigid plastic packaging they come in.
- **Dental care:** Toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, mouthwash bottles, and floss containers. Save all brands, plus toothbrush packaging.
- **Deodorant:** All brands of deodorant containers and caps.
- **Writing Instruments +:** All brands of empty writing instruments, glue sticks, watercolor dispensers, paint sets, and flexible packaging.

If you cannot make this event, you can [schedule a curbside pickup for textiles](#). For TerraCycle, be on the lookout for our permanent drop location in Salem to be announced.



Autumnal Composting Reminders



Salem residents have two remaining opportunities this fall to have yard waste collected curbside.

During the weeks of October 18th and November 29th, place leaves and grass clippings in brown paper yard waste bags or uncovered garbage cans curbside on your trash day.

Accepted: **lawn clippings, leaves, brush, plants, and bundled branches no longer than four feet or wider than four inches.** No: tree stumps or logs, please.

Salem residents may also drop off yard waste at the Transfer Station on Swampscott Rd, seasonally on Saturdays 7am - 3pm and Sundays 9am - 5pm.

Wondering what to do with that rotting Jack-O-Lantern or decorative pumpkin? Be sure to place it in your home compost, or if you happen to have access to the compost bin located at Mack Park, you can bring them there to decompose in peace. Sign up [here](#).

Note: remove candle wax and base before placing in the compost. If pumpkin is covered in paint, glitter, or syntethic material, it is not compostable.



Seeking Additions to Our Committee

Do you love recycling? Do you get excited by finding new ways to reduce, reuse, and refuse? Is composting your jam? The SalemRecycles committee is seeking new members. Some skills we are seeking:

- Graphic design
- Amateur videography
- Writing experience

We would love to have a Spanish speaking member and/or resident of the Point, to better reach the point community and Spanish speakers in Salem. Reach out to Micaela Guglielmi at mguglielmi@salem.com if you are interested

Mixed Paper and Cardboard - Most Recycled in Salem



As more and more companies demand recycled content in their packaging (at the expectation of the consumer) the cost per ton on return for recycled materials has increased. Recycling in our City has increased since Covid began, so now the City makes a modest sum in return for the recycling we produce. Since the China

SWORD Policy went into effect in 2018, the City has been paying to remove recycling, so we welcome this new change!

In order to successfully send recycling off to resale, Waste Management must ensure that it is 10% or less contaminated - this starts with **you**. We've consistently improved in our reduction in contamination levels over the past 2+ years since waste management has been auditing Salem and we hope to maintain that momentum.

Salem's most recycled items are mixed paper, which makes up just over 40% of our recycling. Cardboard and glass come in second at nearly 20% each.

Cardboard can be recycled up to 6 times, and its use has gone up dramatically as more of us order products delivered to our homes. Read more about the booming cardboard market in the latest [Recycle Smart Newsletter](#).

State regulations require that all clean cardboard be recycled. This includes all types of cardboard— thin as well as corrugated. Note: recently used pizza boxes are also included. Cardboard goes in your recycling bin. Note that BOXES NEED TO BE FLATTENED so that they don't get stuck when the bin is emptied. Uncut cardboard may be dropped off at Greif, 53 Jefferson Ave, during regular business hours, Monday – Friday 7 am – 3 pm

Recycling Tip: Silica Packets & Styrofoam



Speaking of an uptick in packages, do consider how to best reuse and/or dispose of the packing materials within:

- **Silica Gel Packet:** this little packet has a multitude of household uses, from keeping important documents and photographs dry to dealing with a wet cell phone or keeping in your tool box to prevent tools from rusting - [Learn more](#).
- **Styrofoam:** Salem residents should not put Styrofoam in curbside recycle bins, even if it has a recycling symbol. You can place it in your trash bin. Rigid, white styrofoam (Expanded Polystyrene) can be brought to Save That Stuff at 200 Terminal Street, Charlestown, MA (617) 241-9998. [Click here](#) for more details about what they collect. One excellent way to reuse styrofoam is in the bottom of large planters. Break up pieces of styrofoam or use styrofoam peanuts (the non-dissolving kind) to take up extra space before topping with soil. [Here are some more options on how to reuse styrofoam](#).

For more tips and tricks for reducing, reusing, and recycling, [see our Recycling A-Z guide](#).

Seeking Salem Sustainable Superstar Nominations

We often show up at events to support waste reduction efforts. A few weeks ago, you may have seen us at the Ice Scream Bowl or, pictured here, at the July Derby Street Meet and Eat put on by our friends at Root. When at an event around Salem, check to see if there is composting and recycling when you go to toss the remains.

Last newsletter we shared one of our leaders in the community, Janelle Rolke, and her efforts with [Keep Salem Beautiful](#). We'd love to feature more local efforts and individuals and want to hear from you! Who would you nominate to feature next? [Fill out the nomination form](#).

Looking Ahead:

- December 4th - Repair Cafe
- December 18th - E-Waste Collection at Salem High School

Our calendar of events can be [found here](#).

SalemRecycles

978-619-5672

mguglielmi@salem.com

View as Webpage

Connect with Us



City of Salem, SalemRecycles | Engineering Department, 98 Washington Street, Salem, MA 01970

[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#).

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by mguglielmi@salem.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!