



E-BULLETIN FROM OTSEGO COUNTY CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

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EARTH FESTIVAL 2009 TO OFFER SHREDDING, RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES: In keeping with the earth-friendly theme of Earth Festival 2009, a number of items will be collected for recycling. Event organizers invite attendees to drop off Styrofoam, bubble wrap and broken Christmas lights. In addition, a free shredding service will be provided by ConfiData, a division of Empire Recycling, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Earth Festival 2009 will be held on Saturday, April 18 at Milford Central School from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Now in its fourth year, Earth Festival is an environmentally-focused, interactive event featuring exhibits, activities, vendors and entertainment. Financial contributions are most welcome, and an open invitation to earth-friendly exhibitors, food and retail vendors is extended. **Clean Styrofoam packaging material, meat trays, mushroom boxes, and egg cartons will be collected and delivered this year to Meyda Tiffany, along with the bubble wrap.** According to Meyda Tiffany President Robert Cohen, the Styrofoam and bubble wrap will then be converted into packing materials that can be reused when the firm ships stained glass lamps, lighting fixtures, and stained glass windows to customers across the nation. Volunteers will deliver collected materials to the 55 Oriskany Boulevard Meyda location in Yorkville. **As they did last spring, Empire Recycling will provide a document shredding truck for disposal of confidential papers.** Staples and paper clips need not be removed. The truck will be parked in the school's circular driveway, and the actual shredding process may be viewed through an onsite camera. Broken and used Christmas lights will be sent to HolidayLEDs, where they will be shredded and the plastic, glass, and copper recycled. A donation of \$1 is requested, to cover shipping costs. To prepare the lights, remove only threaded bulbs and wind each strand into a compact loop. There will be a collection box available for the wrapped up light strings. Earth Festival 2009 is presented by the Environmental Education Network of Otsego County and sponsored by Wildlife Learning Company, in cooperation with Otsego 2000, the Otsego County Conservation Association and Cooperstown Chamber of Commerce. To learn more about the many ways you can participate in or support Earth Festival, visit www.eenoc.org or call 607-293-6043.

"THE WORLD'S FIRST GLOBAL ELECTION, BETWEEN EARTH AND GLOBAL WARMING": On March 28 you can **VOTE EARTH by switching off your lights for one hour, between 8:30-9:30 p.m.** Or you can vote global warming by leaving your lights on. The results of the election are being presented at the Global Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen 2009. One billion votes for Earth is the goal, to tell world leaders that we have to take action against global warming. For more information about Earth Hour, check out the website: www.earthhour.org

ECO-FRIENDLY TIP: When you're getting materials for a do-it-yourself project, remember the BUDD rule: buy only what you need, use up everything you buy, or donate leftovers to a neighbor or community group, and dispose of waste responsibly.

From the book "1,001 Ways to Save the Earth," by Joanna Yarrow.

OCCA NEEDS YOUR HELP TO KEEP FIGHTING THE THREATS TO OUR NATURAL RESOURCES. Got a minute? Look at everything else OCCA is doing – and please

consider an online donation whenever you can. Visit www.occainfo.org and look for the Network for Good logo at the top right of the home page.