

## In Tompkins County

# Public Space Recycling Now Part of Cayuga Waterfront

ITHACA, NY – The Tompkins County Solid Waste Division installed its fourth public space recycling bin in Ithaca’s Stewart Park, along the Cayuga Waterfront Trail. It features receptacles for both trash and common single-stream recyclable items like cans, bottles and newspapers.

The bins are serviced on a regular basis by Casella Waste Systems, and monitored by Solid Waste Division staff. The City removed other garbage receptacles in Stewart Park once the public space bins were installed.

“We’ve found an increasing number of communities are focused on expanding recycling opportunities to public settings such as streetscapes and parks,” said Nancy Webster, a Waste Reduction and Recycling Specialist for Tompkins County. “The more successful programs are those that provide options for both recycling and trash.”

In 2015, the County installed public space recycling bins in downtown Ithaca, the Town of Lansing and Village of Trumansburg. It plans to site two additional bins before the end of 2016.

The public space recycling initiative is one of several programs supported by the County’s solid waste annual fee.



City Forester Jeanne Grace (l.) and Nancy Webster of the Tompkins County Solid Waste Division show off the new public space recycling bin in Ithaca’s Stewart Park.



Public space recycling bin in Ithaca’s Stewart Park.

## Tompkins Recycling Center Collects Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG)

**Ithaca, NY** – In the first three months since the Tompkins County Recycling and Solid Waste Center added a collection station for liquid cooking fats, oils and grease (FOG), nearly 275 gallons of material were dropped off by residents.

The FOG collection station is part of the newly redesigned food scraps drop spot at the RSWC in Ithaca. It

allows residents easy access to properly dispose of their household cooking oils, animal fats and grease in an environmentally safe manner while diverting it from the local water supply and preventing the clogging of sewer lines.

The FOG is processed by Buffalo Biodiesel and recycled into a renewable, biodegradable fuel that is pro-

duced domestically. Biodiesel is a cleaner-burning, sustainable replacement for petroleum diesel fuel.

The County also offers residents a free, specially-designed funnel to conveniently empty liquid FOG into the reusable container they use to carry the material to the collection station.