

Preserving the environment through integrated recovery and disposal.

June 5, 2014

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: David Lupinski, Director of Recycling

Phone: (315) 733-1224 ext. 1600

Mohawk Valley Community College Receives RecycleOne Business Certification

The Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority is pleased to announce that Mohawk Valley Community College (MVCC) is the first educational institution in Oneida and Herkimer Counties to receive the Authority's RecycleOne Business Certification.

"Mohawk Valley Community College (MVCC) committed to the development and implementation of a comprehensive sustainability plan in 2013, and their wide-spread waste reduction, recycling and energy conservation measures have made a significant impact campus-wide," said David Lupinski, Authority Director of Recycling.

In September 2013, MVCC partnered with the Authority to conduct its first-ever solid waste and recycling audit. The goal of the audit was to identify origins of waste, the types (paper, plastics, metal and glass), the volume and how they are being handled. The audit results helped determine what strategies should be implemented for increased reuse and recycling. Nearly 800 pounds of solid waste from the Academic Building were sorted during the audit, and based on the audit results, the Authority provided MVCC with recommendations and strategies to help increase the campus recycling rate, and MVCC immediately began implementing such strategies.

MVCC is an advocate for the environment through its dedication to increasing recycling and waste reduction on campus while reducing the dependence on our landfill and other natural resources. The college has incorporated sustainability initiatives into every aspect of the college, including daily operations, curriculum, student life, and community outreach.

MVCC's sustainable efforts include:

- Forming a Sustainability Council (faculty/staff) and a Sustainability Club (Student Congress)
- Investing in hundreds of recycling containers to be placed in every classroom, dorm room, office and hallway on the MVCC campus.
- Implementing waste reduction policies and practices such as 2-sided printing on campus and using electronic correspondence versus printed memos.
- Implementing energy efficient policies and practices.
- Creating and implementing an education campaign for students and staff on campus.
- Planning a pilot food waste composting program in cooperation with the Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Neil C. Angell
Chairman

Harry A. Hertline
Treasurer

Alicia Dicks
James M. D'Onofrio

Barbara Freeman
Robert J. Roberts, III

William A. Rabbia
Executive Director

Kenneth A. Long
Vice Chairman

Vincent J. Bono

James A. Franco

James M. Williams

Jodi M. Tuttle
Authority Board Secretary

“In order for the successful implementation of these initiatives and to ultimately receive this recognition, it has taken a cooperative effort on behalf of MVCC’s buildings and grounds staff, Associate Dean for Student & Residence Life Services Dennis Gibbons, Student Congress President Devin Sonne, the Sustainability Club, Sustainability Council, administration, and the students who participate in recycling and waste reduction efforts on campus. Together, we have focused our efforts on becoming a more environmentally conscious organization,” said Thomas Gleason, Assistant Director of Facilities Operations for MVCC.

“MVCC is a leading example of how an institution can implement a comprehensive and consistent recycling program throughout the campus classrooms and dormitories while increasing awareness and motivating students to participate in sustainable efforts. They are well deserving of this Certification,” Lupinski concluded.

The **RecycleOne Business Certification Program** requires an on-site review from Authority staff to verify that specific solid waste management, recycling and energy reduction criteria have been achieved. If the criteria have been achieved, the Authority will issue the facility or business an official **RecycleOne Business Certification**.

For more information on the Authority’s **RecycleOne Business Recycling Program**, contact David Lupinski, Director of Recycling, at (315) 733-1224 ext. 1600 or visit www.RecycleOneBusiness.com to download the **RecycleOne Business Recycling Program Guide**.

-End-