

## *Other options*

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One option for your Christmas tree is to give it to the birds. Tie it to a stake or post to prevent it from blowing away in winter winds. Be sure to remove all decorations, especially tinsel, which can hurt birds if they eat it.



Winter birds appreciate the cover of a tree, especially if decorated with bird food ornaments or scattered birdseed.

Another way is to cut up the branches and use them as winter mulch on perennial flower beds.



Place evergreen boughs on low growing plants for protection, especially in late winter, when freezing and thawing of the soil heaves shallow-rooted perennials out of the ground.

Other branches can be dispensed to a winter display. Arrange them in a large container near your door, porch, or some other focal point. Add other greenery and decorations, such as barberry, cones, dried grasses, berries, and seed pods.



## *Our department*

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The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department coordinates the Christmas Tree Recycling Program, advertises in the local newspapers and distributes posters to various towns.

Please contact our office for more information or to volunteer during this event.

The Ogle County Christmas Tree Recycling Program received State recognition when it was presented the 2011 Illinois Recycling Association's "Excellence in Recycling" Award for Outstanding Community or Government Program.



Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department

815-732-4020

[www.oglecounty.org](http://www.oglecounty.org)

FB: Ogle County Solid Waste Management Dept.



2017

# Christmas Tree Recycling

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*Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department*

909 Pines Road  
Oregon, IL 61061

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## *Trees will be chipped into mulch*

In Ogle County when the final carol has been sung and the last cookie baked, it's time to give a final Christmas gift by recycling your Christmas tree. A live Christmas tree is a renewable, recyclable resource that allows you and your family to enjoy the noblest of holiday symbols and help the environment at the same time.

Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department will be offering a Christmas tree recycling program for residents in the area.

Please be sure to remove all decorations from the tree, including ornaments, garland, tinsel, and water stand.

Trees will be chipped into mulch to be used for public beautification projects.

Additional mulch is available to residents at no charge and will be available for pick up at most

locations. This mulch can be used for gardening and landscaping or on biking trails, paths, and walkways.



## *How tree recycling works*

There were over 550 trees chipped in Ogle County in 2017. With each tree weighing about 50 pounds, that's approximately 13.75 tons of waste being diverted from the landfill. Over 14,360 trees have been recycled since the inception of the program in 1998, which equates to approximately 359 tons of trees.

Local high school FFA groups from Byron, Oregon, Polo, and Forreston will volunteer their time to pick up trees at the curb for residents and take them to the chipping site.

This program is possible because of the volunteer efforts of the following:

- \* City of Byron
- \* Byron High School FFA
- \* Tom Lichty's Landscaping Service
- \* Village of Forreston
- \* Forreston High School FFA
- \* Village of Leaf River
- \* Oregon Park District
- \* Oregon High School FFA
- \* Flagg-Rochelle Park District
- \* City of Rochelle
- \* City of Polo
- \* Polo High School FFA
- \* Morgans's Tree Service



*Please thank them for their time and effort in collecting and chipping the trees!*

## *Locations*

Please check each location to see if there is a pick up or drop off. Trees must be at the curb no later than **8:00 a.m. on January 6, 2018**, for tree pick up. Drop off program ends January 15, 2018.

**Adeline:** Forreston High School FFA will pick up trees at the curb.

**Baileyville:** Forreston High School FFA will pick up trees at the curb.

**Byron:** Drop off at the Byron boat launch lot, E. Blackhawk Dr. (Rt. 2), Byron High School FFA will pick up trees at the curb.

**Forreston:** Drop off at 407 N. Locust St. Forreston High School FFA will pick up trees at the curb.

**German Valley:** Forreston High School FFA will pick up trees at the curb.

**Leaf River:** Drop off at 208 Railroad St., near sewage treatment plant.

**Monroe Center:** Drop off at Tom Lichty's Landscaping, 309 Pacific St.

**Mt. Morris:** Drop off at Oregon Park District Maintenance Dept., Hill St. Oregon High School FFA will pick up trees at the curb.

**Oregon:** Drop off at Oregon Park District Maintenance Dept., Hill St. Oregon High School FFA will pick up trees at the curb.

**Polo:** Drop off southwest corner of E. Colden & S. Green Ave. Polo High School FFA will pick up trees at the curb.

**Rochelle area: Residents,** city will chip trees at the curb the first two weeks of January. **Non residents,** drop off at Atwood Park, 10th Ave. & 20th St.