



**MONTGOMERY  
COUNTY NY**

Make of Successful Strangers

Office of the Executive

Matthew L. Ossenfort

March 31, 2016

Dear Community Leader,

Montgomery County wants to partner with you to help keep our community clean, green and environmentally aware. I would like to urge you to support a community-wide cleanup day in your town/village or to participate in one that is already scheduled. Earth Day is April 22, so this is a perfect time to plan a cleanup day, which can spark awareness and inspire appreciation of our community. Taking on this responsibility is important for every resident of this county.

The Montgomery County Public Health Department has put together this cleanup kit to help provide you with some of the tools to jumpstart your cleanup efforts.

There are numerous health benefits that a cleanup event can provide to our community and its residents by eliminating unwanted trash and removing objects where water can be trapped. Due to the mild weather this winter season, mosquito breeding may come earlier than usual. Now is the time to remove any water-collection areas that are found lying around our yards. By emptying and cleaning up these areas, mosquito populations can be better controlled, thus eliminating the threat of potential illness.

The county's Youth Bureau has scheduled the 3rd annual Youth Serving Veterans Spring Cleanup Day for Saturday, April 16. There are currently 16 youth groups volunteering to help approximately 50 veterans and at veteran memorial parks. If you are interested in participating in this event, please contact the Youth Bureau at (518) 853-4355 or email Youth Bureau Director Brenda Rava at [brava@co.montgomery.ny.us](mailto:brava@co.montgomery.ny.us).

The 11th annual Clean Sweep of the Erie Canal and Canalway Trail is being organized for the weekend following Earth Day, April 22-24. You can organize your own Clean Sweep event or join one that is already in place. There are already events planned in Canajoharie, Randall and at the Schoharie Crossing Visitor Center, in Fort Hunter. You can find more information at [www.ptny.org/events/canal-clean-sweep](http://www.ptny.org/events/canal-clean-sweep).

Our rural character and beauty is what sets us apart from many other places. We live in a wonderful place, an area where the outdoors is truly showcased. By working together to remove unwanted debris, we can help keep our county beautiful. Thank you in advance for your time and we look forward to your help and participation in this endeavor.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew L. Ossenfort".

Matthew L. Ossenfort  
Montgomery County Executive