

2016 ONTARIO COUNTY/CASELLA WASTE MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

The Ontario County Board of Supervisors announced they will again award Casella Environmental Waste Management academic scholarships to qualified **Ontario County** (*applicants must be a resident of Ontario County*) college or college-bound students who are pursuing majors in environmental studies, agriculture or agricultural business; including waste management. Applications (to include references) must be **postmarked by March 11, 2016**.

The application is available on the next page of this announcement.

Casella Waste Systems, Inc. has established this 20-year fund to support scholarships to encourage students to pursue college-level studies and careers in the fields of environmental studies, agriculture, and waste management.

Each scholarship recipient will be chosen by a team of reviewers in accordance with the established criteria. Recipients are chosen for their outstanding academic records, strong references, and for a well written essay showing her or his dedication to a career that will support the environment.

Please complete the application including all the attachments, obtain the necessary references and forward all to:

Christopher Semler
Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES
131 Drumlin Court
Newark, New York 14513

585-200-2568
csemler@wflboces.org

Applications and references must be postmarked by March 11, 2016.

ONTARIO COUNTY/CASELLA WASTE MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

APPLICATION

Deadline: Must be postmarked by March 11, 2016

DESCRIPTION:

The Ontario County/Casella Waste Management Systems Scholarship will provide eight \$2,500 scholarships to students who reside in Ontario County and are committed to college level study in the fields related to environmental science, environmental engineering, agricultural, or waste management.

CRITERIA:

The scholarship is available to selected, college-bound, graduating high school seniors or undergraduate college students, who

- have been accepted into a recognized (registered) college level program of study;
- leading to an Associate or Bachelor's degree in fields related to environmental science, environmental engineering, agriculture, and/or waste management.
- are residents of Ontario County;
- are U.S. citizens or possess permanent resident visas at the time of their application; and
- can demonstrate academic proficiency.

APPLICATION:

Applicants must complete an application form, submit a two-page essay; copies of your high school and/or college transcripts; if in college now, evidence that you are in good standing to continue at the institution of higher education in the fall of 2016; and three letters of reference in sealed envelopes. These materials should be mailed to:

*Christopher Semler
Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES
131 Drumlin Court
Newark, NY 14513*

Please note: References may be sent directly by the person writing the reference to the Scholarship Coordinator at the address noted above. Applicants may submit copies of any papers they have written on any aspect of environmental studies, agriculture, agricultural business or waste management. Please do not submit and double sided material.

ONTARIO COUNTY/CASELLA WASTE MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

ESSAY INSTRUCTIONS:

Write an essay stating your interest in environmental, agriculture, agricultural related business or waste management including **your vision of your possible role in the field** (planning, consulting, design, construction, teaching, research, facility operation or management, regulatory agency work, municipal government, etc.) and **why you have chosen the course of study you are pursuing**. Also, explain how this scholarship will support your educational plans. The essay can be up to two pages long. Please use 12 font and single space with 1" margins. Applicants are advised that the essay is an important scoring element and to take great care in providing a well organized and thought out essay that addresses all criteria above and to use all the space allotted to develop their essay.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

The Scholarship Coordinator will review and pre-screen all applications to determine if the applicant meets the eligibility criteria and that the application is complete.

Applications that do not include the application, two page essay, transcript(s), and at least three references will not be reviewed. Applicants that do not meet those requirements will not be considered and will receive a letter of rejection. The remaining applications will be forwarded to the Review Committee. **Applications must be postmarked by March 11, 2016.** We expect to announce award winners on or about June 15, 2016.

REVIEW PROCESS:

The review committee will read, discuss, and consider all applications received by the deadline date. The committee will select the winners who appear to be best qualified and most promising based on the application and accompanying submissions. Consideration will be given to the applicant's statement of interest and commitment to a career in environmental studies, agriculture, agricultural business or waste management, his or her environmental vision, academic record, and any experience in environmental or agricultural management projects. The judges will be the sole decision-makers on the granting of scholarships and are authorized to withhold scholarships if there are no qualified applicants.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS:

Ontario County will notify each scholarship winner by mail; on or about June 15, 2016, with return receipt requested to the address given in the application. If a scholarship winner fails to acknowledge and accept the award in writing to the scholarship coordinator by the given date; his/her award will be forfeited and the scholarship will be awarded to the next highest scoring applicant. Upon verification of the scholarship and the winner's matriculation in college, the scholarship grant will be paid to the college for the student's account.

**ONTARIO COUNTY/CASELLA WASTE MANAGEMENT
SCHOLARSHIP**

Application Form

Full Name:

Address:

Parent/Guardian:

Telephone Number: _____ **E-Mail Address:** _____

Overall Grade Average: _____ **Class Rank/Size:** _____

Name of College you attend or plan to attend:

Address of College: _____

Chosen Field of Study:

Extra Curricular Activities:

Awards Received:

**Are you a previous Casella Scholarship Winner? If so what years have you
previously been awarded:**

**ONTARIO COUNTY/CASELLA WASTE MANAGEMENT
SCHOLARSHIP**

Certification Form

I certify that all information contained in and attached to this application is true and is my own work.

Date: _____

Signature

List of Attachments:

- A. Two page essay which addresses the essay criteria.
- B. Most current and available copy of high school and/or college transcripts.
- C. For applicants presently in college, evidence the applicant is in good standing to continue at the institution of higher education in 2016.
- D. Three letters of reference, in sealed envelopes. References may be mailed separately by each reference, but they must also be postmarked by March 11, 2016. It is highly recommended that applicants request their references early - lack of three quality references is often a cause for not being awarded the scholarship.
- E. *Competitive Preference Points: Applicants can receive up to 2 competitive priority points by submitting a previous essay written for school or other purposes related to the environment.*

Note: Applications will not be reviewed if all items are not received or postmarked by March 11, 2016.

For the applicants information the reviewers' criteria is listed below:

Criteria	Points
Based on review of the essay the strength of the applicants intent to pursue a career in environmental, agriculture or agricultural business studies	5
Based on review of the essay the strength of the applicants interest in environmental, agriculture or agricultural business or a related field including what the applicant envisions as his/her possible role in the field.	5
Strength of papers applicant has written on any aspect of environmental studies, agriculture or agricultural business or special projects.	2
Strength of applicant's transcribed course of study and grades.	8
Strength of Letters of Recommendation	5