

New Paltz Recycling Center Staff Finally Gets Permanent Home

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NEW PALTZ — The town will formally open a town recycling center office on April 16 after having its staff operate from a trailer for the past two years.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for 10 a.m. at the recycling center on Clearwater Road near the town highway garage.

Town Supervisor Toni Hokanson said the center's original office, an old cottage that the town had earlier rescued from demolition after years of use by the Chamber of Commerce, ultimately had to be razed because it had deteriorated so badly.

Hokanson said the rented trailer subsequently used for the recycling staff of two full-time employees and one part-time employee was not well-equipped as an office.

"This is the first time ever that they've had a real bathroom," she said. "They've always had a port-a-potty during their entire existence."

Information on the cost to construct new offices was not immediately available, but Hokanson said fifty percent of the cost will be reimbursed through a state Department of Environmental Conservation grant. "We did it mostly in-house," she said. "We did use an electrician for a small amount of work, a plumber for a small amount of work, and we had somebody roof it and do the sheet rock and taping."

The recycling center is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.