



Nothing but NET in Will County

March is a wonderful time, the start of Spring, the celebration of "green" on St. Patrick's Day and college basketball madness! Speaking of hoop shots, we have some amazing wins to share with you, along with some up-coming events to put on your calendars!

[Visit Our Website](#)

Electronics & Household Hazardous Waste Event

The Resource Recovery and Energy Division of Will County is kicking off the 2019 collection event year with an Electronics and HHW event in Bolingbrook on March 23. All banned electronic items and more will be accepted, along with unwanted or expired hazardous items from your home. Be sure to start the spring cleaning early and improve the safety of your home!



Appointments required, please [click here](#) to see a full list of accepted items and hit the "Make an Appointment" graphic to reserve your preferred time.

Net Zero Building in Plainfield

The Plainfield Park District just opened the state's first Net Zero recreation center. This building was partially possible due to a grant from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation for design and installation of solar. However, it is filled with amenities that make it 65% more efficient than a conventional project of its type in a similar climate!



- Roof top solar array is 213 KW

- Building construction is precast with super insulated envelope (including R34 to R40 walls and R50 to R60 rooftop insulation)
- Programmable LED lighting throughout with daylight harvesting
- High efficiency mechanical equipment with heat recovery
- The Building is anticipated to produce as much energy overhead as it uses in the building on an annual basis!

Stop by to check it out, just off Renwick Road, west of Rt. 59! Design by Wight and Company.

Reduce Single Use Plastic

Are you interested in reducing the plastic that can't be recycled? Concerned about the amount of fossil fuel that took millions of years to make being used for items that are discarded after mere minutes or hours of use? **Attend the C.A.R.E. organization's free presentation** on Saturday, April 6 from 1:30pm-4:30pm at the White Oak library in Lockport to learn what you can do to make better choices and encourage businesses to do the same.



Transition to Renewable Energy

Join the Will County Regional Sustainability Network for their first sub-group meeting of the year! The event will take place at the new energy efficient Will County Public Safety Complex building and shall include a brief introduction on the "green" qualities of the facility. The main focus of the presentation will cover the challenges and opportunities of making a transition to 100% renewable energy. [Date and Time: March 20 at 8:30am](#) at 16911 W. Laraway Road, Joliet.



One Earth Film Festival - March 1-10

There are wide variety of movies available this year for anyone interested in this annual environmental film event. Go "ALL IN" for the planet at the Midwest's premier environmental film festival. See one or more of powerful, solution-oriented films. Discover community action partners who can help you plug into projects, large and small. Looking for action opportunities now? [Volunteer](#) for the Fest!



[Click for info!](#)

GM Partners on EV National Network

General Motors is collaborating with electric vehicle charging networks EVgo, ChargePoint, and Greenlots, to enable access to the largest collective electric vehicle charging network in the United States, including more than 31,000 charging ports. The company wants to overcome barriers to create a stronger EV infrastructure for the future. GM also expects to make enrollment for charging with these networks easier by creating an app interface for all three networks to streamline charger access and potentially allow activation of a charging session using the app instead of a membership card. GM's Bolt is considered an affordable all-electric vehicle and has been out long enough to be available in new and used models.



Time to Garden

Don't let the cold weather keep you from starting now on a wonderful backyard garden. No backyard, join a community garden or do a container garden on a patio or in the window! Not sure where to begin or know you had some trouble last year but not certain what to do, learn from seasoned pros through the University of Illinois Extension Office.

Already an expert, please share your techniques by becoming a Master Gardener. [Click here for info!](#)



Comfort and Efficiency

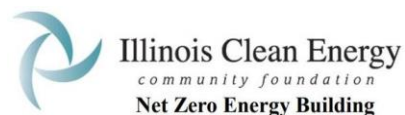
While natural gas remains the best value for your heating needs, costs typically increase in the winter because your heating system works harder and runs more often to keep you comfortable. To help manage your winter heating bills, consider starting small, place caulk or foam between the electrical box and drywall on switches and outlets located on exterior walls. Then, place foam gaskets behind the plates for a good, airtight seal.



Ready to get started on your weatherization project? [Find an approved contractor](#) to complete the work and you could get a rebate up to \$1,600. [Learn more.](#)

Grant Funding for Net Zero Projects

The Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation's Net-Zero Energy Buildings Grant Program that funded the design of the Plainfield Park District's rec center, is taking applications! A single award can be as high as \$2



million! The program is designed for governments and non-profit organizations and provides up funds for new construction and retrofit projects that obtain PHIUS+ or Living Building Challenge certification and maintain site net-zero energy performance.

The next deadline for the submission of Request for Ideas (RFI) is May 15, 2019 to be considered in the July 2019 competitive cycle. For inquiries, please contact Gabriela Martin, Energy Programs Director at GMartin@IllinoisCleanEnergy.org or (312)372-5191.

Spring Rain - Storm Drain

Spring rains will be washing litter into storm drains. This may cause backups of water on streets and in fields or detention basins. Prevent flooding and improve driver safety by removing litter near and storm drains or culverts around your neighborhood. For more information on storm water pollution issues, see our [website page](#).



Living Green Presentation

White Oak Library in Crest Hill is offering a presentation for adults on ways to reduce environmental impacts in daily life on Saturday, April 6 from 2:30pm-4pm. Living green is something that anyone can do. Learn the ins and outs of living a more environmentally friendly life, including small every day changes and larger ways to reduce energy consumption. Registration is required. Please click this [link to sign-up!](#)



Click for more information:

[Battery Recycling](#)

[Book Reuse](#)

[CFL Recycling](#)

[Electronics](#)

[Latex Paint](#)

[Medication](#)

[Plastic Bags/Film](#)

[Styrofoam](#)

[Textiles](#)

[Thermostats](#)

[Traditional Drop-Offs](#)

[Tire Recycling](#)



Play a fun game!



Join the School
Earth Flag
Program



Virtual Tour
Tour Recycling
Sites



EV Charging



Commuter Options



Community and School Garden Program



Farmer's Markets and Fresh Food Options



Solar Info



Wind Info



Water Conservation



Geothermal Info

Upcoming Events

Winter Farmer's Market

Plainfield
United Methodist Church
**Saturday
March 16**

Electronics & Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Bolingbrook
**Saturday
March 23**
Appointment Required

Earth Hour Internationally Saturday March 30 8pm-9pm

Life with Less Plastic
C.A.R.E. presentation
FREE
White Oak Library
**Saturday
April 6
6pm**

Electronics & Household Hazardous Waste Collection
Joliet
**Saturday
April 13**
Appointment Required

Earth Day April 22

DEA Medication Take-Back Day
Various Police Stations
**Saturday
April 27**

Textile Collection
Joliet
Monday-Friday

Electronics &

Bluestem Earth Festival
Joliet

Book ReUse & Recycling Event
Joliet

**April 29-May 3
8:30am-4:30pm**

**Household
Hazardous Waste
Collection**
Monee
**Saturday
May 11**
Appointment Required

**Saturday
May 18**

**Friday, Saturday,
Sunday
May 31 - June 2
9am-4pm**



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STAY CONNECTED:



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