

Make everyday Earth Day - Green your Choices - Save Resources - Be Happy



Celebrate, Participate and Be Green

In person drop-off events, virtual informational sessions and everything in between is on the Fall schedule. From plant sales (replace those damaged in the August storm) to adding solar to your roof and cleaning your home of hazards. Its all here! Find out how students at the University of St. Francis are eating healthier and how your community or local business can use less salt when the snow and ice arrive later this year. Even see how video gamers are helping the Earth!

[Visit Our Website](#)

Now is the time to add Solar

If you have already attended an information session, just ask for the Free Home evaluation. As of mid-August, 43 homes have signed up, surpassing 250 kW of solar which means an additional group purchase rebate of \$950. However, if the group reaches 500 kW, which is easily possible based on the number of roof evaluations already in place, each participant will receive a rebate of \$1,300.

Visit: www.growsolar.org/chicagoand

Register to attend one of the last two Virtual Info Sessions:

Thursday, 9/3/20 from 1pm to 2pm

Thursday, 9/10/20 from 6pm to 7pm

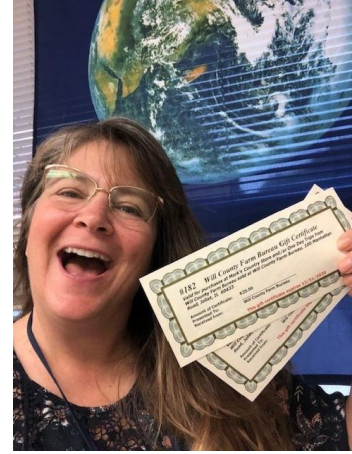
[*Program is offered by several Counties, CUB, MREA](#)



The Clock is Ticking: Enter the Earth Day Raffle Today

On September 15 we will be drawing the last FOUR names from our entries that have qualified for our Earth Day Celebration Raffle. We have given away eight prizes since March, when this celebration began! Pictured here is one of our latest winners: Laura O'Shaughnesy

with \$50 Will County Farm Bureau Certificates. Each prize has been valued at \$50 or more in honor of the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day. Our GRAND prize, an iPad and case is provided by A-Team Recyclers and is valued at over \$400. We also have a Vintage Truck from Homewood Disposal, a gift certificate from Target and a 5-pack of Tickets to the Slammers good through 2021 season! This education and activity-based event is intended to encourage everyone to find ways to help the environment. See all the good you are doing, log into WillCountyEarthDay.com to see how quickly your actions qualify you to be in the final raffle!



Three Electronics and Household Hazardous Collections

Will County has worked to provide three FREE Saturday collections this Fall for nearly every electronic device and a wide array of hazardous home products. TVs and satellite dishes to power tools and microwaves will be accepted. We recycle all latex paint and properly dispose of other chemicals, also accepting CFL bulbs, mercury thermostats and more. For a full list or to reserve your appointment time please click the appropriate event listing:



- [New Lenox on Saturday, Sept 12 8am to 3pm](#)
- [Wilmington on Saturday, Oct 24 8am to 3pm](#)
- [Beecher on Saturday, Nov 14 8am to 3pm](#)

Fall Fish, Native Plant, and Tree Sale

The Soil and Water Conservation District is proud to announce their Fall Fish, Plant and Tree Sale. It is open to all residents. Orders are taken over the internet. Deadlines are approaching to get your discounted order entered:



- Carp Grass orders due by September 18
- All other Fish orders due by October 2
- (also offering pond maintenance products)
- Tree and native plant orders due by October 7

Learn more by [clicking this link!](#)

Plogging - Consider joining a national virtual event

Join the 2nd annual Keep America BeautifulTrashDash plogging event on Sept. 20, 2020. Plogging is the combination of picking up litter while jogging. No matter your location or time zone, you can participate in the global movement via social media to end litter. To join, pick a location to plog in your community, such as a neighborhood,

park, beach, or trail. We encourage you to post your results on Instagram by tagging [@KeepAmericaBeautiful](#) and including the hashtags #DoBeautifulThings and #TrashDash.

The time is now to make a difference! All ages are welcome to participate. Individual registration for the virtual event is free, however, a \$10 donation is appreciated. Sign up as an individual, with family and friends, or as a corporate team today.



KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL
TRASHDASH
Plogging for our Planet

ONE DAY. ONE ACTION. ONE MOVEMENT.

REGISTER TODAY
Sunday, Sept. 20, 2020

#DoBeautifulThings

REGISTER

Food Vendor turns Garden Veggies into Campus Entrees

The University of St. Francis has a bountiful community garden on their Clare Campus. This year, their food service vendor, Quest Food Management Services, is taking on the responsibility of the garden while also turning the produce it yields into healthy fresh options for students and faculty. The company has 30 years of experience and offers Fair Trade coffee, uses only whole grain breads and pastas, while also never using MSG. Furthermore, Quest serves produce that is fresh, fresh frozen or packed in 100% juice or water. They purchase sustainable seafood that follows the Marine Stewardship Council's guidelines and recommendations. All menus include a variety of vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options. Lastly, they source milk that is local and free of added growth hormones.



Peotone School District hydrates with County Grant

Will County launched a Water Bottle Refill Station Grant in January of 2020 and one of the awardees is Peotone School District. The Grant covered reimbursement of up to \$500 for refurbishment of an existing water fountain to make it a water bottle refill station or the installation of a new station. Peotone School District installed not one, but **eleven** water bottle refill stations, throughout the school district at a cost of just over \$11,000. *Peotone Community Unit School District 207-U* is one of the geographically largest school districts in the Chicago Metropolitan Area. This effort will reduce single-use water bottle use, improve hydration of student and faculty, while also reducing or eliminating germs associated with traditional water fountains.



Bike Trail Improvements

A step closer: The Forest Preserve District of Will County, with funds from Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality

Improvement (CMAQ) group, is creating a safer way for walkers, runners and bicyclists who travel along Black Road to cross Interstate 55 and the DuPage River. In addition to a 260-foot bridge over the DuPage River and a 300-foot bridge over I-55, the project will include new asphalt trail segments along both the south and north sides of Black Road and east of I-55. Traffic signal modifications also will be added at East Frontage Road to make it safer for people to cross Black Road from north to south. Work was halted briefly when utilities hit bedrock while trying to relocate poles. The work is expected to be complete late Fall or early Winter. The Black Road trail connection project also will provide a critical link to more than 50 miles of regional trails including the I&M Canal Trail and the Old Plank Road Trail. Time to ride!



To Recycle at the Curb or at the Store or a Drop-Off

If you missed the County Recycling presentation on August 19, have no fear, it was recorded by The Conservation Foundation and is available anytime on their channel - [just click this link!](#) Be sure to check out many other video presentations offered by The Conservation Foundation on a variety of topics, including composting, native plant selection and spotting invasive species in your yard.



Preparing for Ice and Snow Response

Mark your calendar to attend a VIRTUAL workshop on using less salt in response to snow and ice removal. Two workshops are designed for public roadways and another is designed for private parking lots. Get the word to business owners and contractors involved in plowing, facility managers and anyone that is interested in reducing the damage of traditional salting practices. This program is free of charge and being offered by the Lower Des Plaines Watershed Group & Lower DuPage River Watershed Coalition. Registration at DRSCW.org or SaltSmart.org



- Public Roads: Thursday, Oct 1, 8am to Noon
- Parking Lots & Sidewalks: Thursday Oct 8, 8am to Noon
- Public Roads: Wednesday, Oct 14, 8am to Noon

Video Games and Gamers Helping the Planet

In December of 2019, with bush fires raging through Australia, several on-line video games offered players a

chance to donate to either a wildlife or humanitarian charity working in the area. Within 4 days, they raised \$120,000! The video game industry has yearly revenues of \$140 billion-more than Hollywood, Bollywood and recorded music sales combined. In 2017, 666 million people watched other people play games on YouTube and Twitch - more than the combined audience of HBO, ESPN and Netflix. Today, more games than ever before are adding green elements, offering players a chance to choose green energy sources, combat Climate Change, and more.



Click for more information:

[Battery Recycling](#)

[Latex Paint](#)

[Textiles](#)

[Book Reuse](#)

[Medication](#)

[Thermostats](#)

[CFL Recycling](#)

[Plastic Bags/Film](#)

[Traditional Drop-Offs](#)

[Electronics](#)

[Styrofoam](#)

[Tire Recycling](#)



Play a fun game!

MEMBER
Will County Green Business Program



willcountygreen.com

GREEN Business



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

**Will County
Earth Day
50th Anniversary
Passport**
Variety of locations
Multiple Days
March 14-Sept 15
Varies
[\(click for Passport\)](#)

**Solarize
Chicagoland**
Virtual Presentations
Multiple Days
June-Sept
Varies
[\(click for list of dates
and times\)](#)

**Electronics
& HHW**
New Lenox
Appointments Required
Saturday
Sept 12
8am - 3pm

**Electronics
& HHW**
Wilmington
*Appointments
Required*
Saturday
Oct 24
8am - 3pm

**Pumpkin Pitch,
Shredding,
Electronics**
Romeoville
Saturday
Nov 7
9am - Noon

**Electronics
& HHW**
Beecher
*Appointments
Required*
Saturday
Nov 14
8am - 3pm



Will County | Land Use | Resource Recovery & Energy
815-727-8834 | info@willcountygreen.com | www.WillCountyGreen.com

STAY CONNECTED:

