



[Visit Our Website](#)

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

## April: A Time to Celebrate Earth

April is chock full of environmental activities, offering numerous ways for anyone to take care of the Earth's resources in a more sustainable manner. From participating in an upcoming collection event to volunteering to work at the event, there are ways to reuse and recycle. Purchasing a compost bin or rain barrel and using it at your home or business conserves water and soil. Buying some native plants reduces watering needs and provides our valued birds and insects with food while enhancing the beauty of our yards. Possibly the biggest challenge with the most valuable reward is reducing food waste. Do as much as you can and together we will make our community thrive.

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## April 9 Recyclepalooza & HHW

Clean out the garage, the shed, the medicine cabinet, closet and pantry because we are accepting nearly everything for recycling, reuse and proper disposal at the first Spring Recyclepalooza since 2019! Make an [appointment](#) today for April 9 to bring unwanted wood, scrap metal, Styrofoam, electronics and household hazardous items. Also, bring donation quality items such as clothing, books, toys, cookware, and small home goods to be redistributed by ShareFest Will County. Let the Spring Cleaning begin!



Make an Appointment  
[April 9 - Joliet \(Recyclepalooza & HHW\)](#)

Volunteer to Work  
[Choose Your Shift](#)

## May 14 Electronics & HHW Event

On Saturday, May 14, we will be collecting televisions, computers, laptops, keyboards, stereos, boom boxes, cassette players, Xboxes, cords, cables, power tools, and electronic items of nearly every kind. We will also be accepting household hazards such as pool chemicals, expired medications, unwanted cleaning fluids, all automotive liquids, mercury containing items, paint (limit 15 gallons) and lights, such as LEDs, CFLS and fluorescent lamps (limit 15 tubes). Make an [appointment](#) now!



Make an Appointment  
[May 14 - Bolingbrook \(Electronics & HHW\)](#)

## SEC Proposes Climate Disclosures

The federal Securities and Exchange Commission issued a 500-plus-page proposed rule on March 21 that could turn some voluntary efforts into a mandate for corporate disclosure of greenhouse gas emissions. It is estimated that publicly traded companies are responsible for [40% of emissions](#), and many investors have been pressing the regulator for rules. The plan is considered both comprehensive and complicated. The SEC will review comments from the public during the next 60 days, and may revise its proposal before holding a vote to finalize the rule.



## Rain Barrel Sale with TCF

Rain barrels are a wonderful way to reuse the rain that falls on the roof by capturing it for later watering needs. Instead of using tap water, a hose from the barrel allows the rain water to be used on gardens, plants and the lawn. The Conservation Foundation (TCF) partners with Will County using Upcycle to make refurbished, repurposed durable rain barrels available for purchase. Be sure to order your Rain Barrels at least one week prior to pickup. The last pickup of **pre-ordered** Rain Barrels will be offered on May 14, Bolingbrook, 8am to 3pm (Order by 5/7)



Rain Barrel \$64.50  
[Click to order online](#)

## Start Composting! Bin Sale

Egg shells, coffee grounds, orange peels and apple cores can be easily turned into a rich fertilizer for your plants. Start or expand your back yard compost by **Ordering a bin by April 15**. Pickup for the pre-purchased compost bins will be May 4, at the County



Building, 302 N Chicago St, Joliet (North Parking Lot)  
from 8:30am to 4:30pm

For more information on how to compost, please visit our [web page](#) with instructions and other important tips.

Compost bins available:

Earth Machine

Upcycle Tumbling

Upcycle Stationary

[Click to view, see pricing and order online](#)

## Forest Preserve Plant Sale

The Nature Foundation of Will County is busy preparing for their annual sale. This year's theme is Bringing Nature Home. Their [Native Plant Sale](#) will begin at noon Friday, April 1 and end at 6 p.m. Sunday, May 8. There will be 86 different native plant species featured. Add some native plants to your home or business landscape and support the County Forest Preserve's Foundation.



[Click for more Information](#)

## Car Seat Recycling at Target

Twice a year, Target offers customers a chance to recycle unwanted baby or child cart seats. When you bring an old, expired or damaged car seat to Target, they offer you a coupon for 20% off a new car seat, a stroller or select baby gear. Materials from the old car seats are recycled by Target's partner, Waste Management.

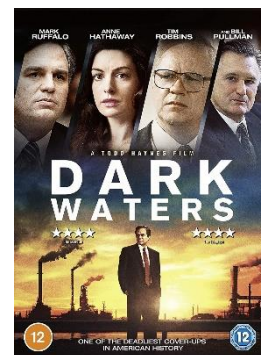


April 18 to April 30

[Click for more Information](#)

## JJC Showing Dark Waters

Joliet Junior College's Sustainability Union and The Coalition for the Protection against PFAS (CPAP) are hosting a film screening of Dark Waters to educate and bring awareness to the issue of forever chemicals (PFAS) within our communities. Dark Waters, is inspired by the true story of Robert Bilott and stars Mark Ruffalo as the attorney who exposed a decades-long history of chemical pollution in drinking water. The forever chemicals are known as per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). They were used in non-stick cookware, fire retardants, food packaging, take-out food containers, nail polish, and many more



[Click to Register to Attend](#)

April 28  
6 pm

products as well. Please stay after the film for a brief discussion.

Dark Water Trailer: [\(31\) DARK WATERS Trailer \(2019\)](#)  
[Anne Hathaway, Mark Ruffalo, Drama - YouTube](#)

## Reduce Food Waste: Prevention Week April 4 -8

An astounding 35% of all food produced goes uneaten. Ending food loss and waste requires purposeful action. Food Waste Prevention Week, April 4-8, 2022, is the perfect time to try ways to reduce food waste at home, work, and in our communities. Ask everyone to bring home items they don't eat from packed lunches to learn about eating habits and needs, but also to be sure items are eaten before being discarded.



Why does reducing food waste matter?

- **Saves money** - A family of four can save an average of \$1800 per year.
- **Conserves resources** - Land, water, energy and human resources are used to grow, package and transport food.
- **Improves food security** - Safe and nutritious food that is currently thrown away could help feed hungry people.

[Click for more information on Food Waste Prevention](#)

## Plastics: Search for Global Solution

The [United Nations Environmental Assembly](#) endorsed a resolution to address the life cycle of plastics. The international group is reviewing the full life cycle of plastic, including its production, design and disposal in recognition of the worldwide pollution plastic waste is causing. From microplastics in the soil to the increasing growth of plastic in our oceans and in recognition of our everyday use of this material, the UN intends to find a path forward that works for all involved.



## Biodegradable Beads

Five hundred strands of biodegradable Mardi Gras beads— formulated at LSU and made in Louisiana— were handed out along parade routes in New Orleans this year due to concern over the tens of thousands of pounds of discarded plastic beads and their impact on the environment. LSU grows microscopic algae, harvests it and processes it into a powder that can be



used to create multiple products including biodegradable Mardi Gras beads. After the celebratory throws, these beads are expected to biodegrade in soil in about one to two years.

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## Reducing Confusion - Scrap Metal never curbside

From torn screens to broken pipes and leftover screws or keys we generate scrap metal. Unlike our metal cans, we cannot place these items in our curbside recycling. They may cause issues to equipment or injury at the sorting facility. Instead, we need to take them to a scrap metal recycling drop-off or scrap site. Will County offers them as part of Recyclepalooza or residents may search our website for scrap yards.



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## May 2 - 6 Textile Collection

Will County is partnering with Helping Hands the first week of May to offer residents a chance to clean out unwanted clothes, blankets, table linens, curtains, pillows and all types of shoes from gym sneakers to boots. A truck will be in the County Building parking lot open 8:30am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, with an early opening on Friday when WJOL's morning crew arrives for a live broadcast!



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## May 3 - Clean Driving Expo

The Annual Green Drives Conference is back and Fleet Managers are invited to attend FREE of charge. The event is being held in Naperville on Tuesday, May 3 and is known as one of the largest clean transportation conferences held in the Midwest. Recommended for government officials, commercial and municipal fleet managers, corporate sustainability officers, and clean-tech and clean-energy professionals who want to learn how to use cleaner, lower emissions fuels and technologies, while saving money. Click this [link to learn more](#).

Register for Green Drives Today! Fleet Managers Free!



Chicago Area Clean Cities invites you to attend our popular Green Drives Conference & Expo, which takes place on Tuesday, May 3.

## 2022 Biggest Year for IL Solar

Five months after the passage of Illinois' landmark clean energy law, solar businesses have installed enough renewable energy to power 30,000 homes and are building a more diverse workforce with the help of job training programs. Data collected by the solar industry found 2022 is on track to be one of the biggest years for solar energy in Illinois' history. The renewable energy industry plans to complete more than 8,400 additional solar installations and increase its workforce by nearly 50% in 2022.



## Recycled Content Sheds & more

Suncast Corporation is the leading US-based designer, manufacturer, and distributor of high-quality recycled content products for the home and industrial markets. A privately held company headquartered in Batavia, Illinois, Suncast prides itself on 35 years of innovation and sustainability across a wide range of product categories with materials proudly sourced in the USA. They utilize solar to power much of their energy needs and strive to reduce waste wherever possible. [Click to learn more!](#)



## Recognition for Water Education

The US EPA's WaterSense program shared a certificate of appreciation with Will County for reporting on water conservation efforts in 2021. Last year, Will County's RR&E division regularly informed constituents about WaterSense within webinars and in-person events, newsletters, and school-based programming. RR&E also encouraged residents to improve water efficiency by using WaterSense-labeled products, checking for leaks, using rain barrels, planting rain gardens, maintaining compost bins, and limiting water-intensive activities. The Will County 2021 Energy & Conservation Plan additionally highlights the County's new partnership with the program, incorporating goals to leverage that partnership. Encourage your organization to become a [WaterSense partner!](#)



## Facebook: Propane Tanks

Grilling season is nearly here and many people find they need to replace an old 5 gallon or larger propane tank. Since there's a possibility of propane left in the tank, many landfills and scrap metal dealers will not accept unwanted tanks. However, some propane exchange companies, including Blue Rhino, will happily take your unused propane cylinders and recycle them at no cost to you. If you have a propane tank that you don't want, never place it in your curbside cart, but bring it to a refill location to exchange or simply leave for recycling if they offer service.



Some Refill locations accept tanks to be recycled. Others do not. Blue Rhino advertises service at no cost.

## Upcoming Events

- Now: Rain Barrel Pre-Ordering (pick up will be at HHW event sites)
- Now-April 15: Compost Bin Ordering
- April 4-8 Food Waste Prevention Week
- April 9: Recyclepalooza and Household Hazardous Waste Collection in Joliet
- April 18-30: Car Seat Recycling at Target Retail Stores
- April 22: Earth Day
- April 28: JJC Showing Dark Waters
- April 29: Arbor Day
- May 2-6: Textile Collection at the County Building in Joliet
- May 4: Compost Bin Pick-Up at the County Building in Joliet
- May 14: Electronics and Household Hazardous Waste Collection in Bolingbrook
- May 20: National Bike-to-Work Day
- June 3,4,5: Book Reuse and Recycling Event in Joliet
- June 14: Water Conservation with the Slammers in Joliet
- July 30: Love in Action Monee Shred Event



Water Conservation



Search for recycling and disposal options on [willcountygreen.com](http://willcountygreen.com)



Geothermal Energy



Green Business Star



School Earth Flag



Take a Virtual Tour



Solar Energy



Info on Electric Vehicles



Wind Energy



Electronics Drop-Off



Household Hazardous Waste  
Drop-Offs



Medication Take-Back

**WillCountyGreen.com**

A website of Will County  
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Will County  
Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant  
County Executive



Resource Recovery  
& Energy  
*A Division of the  
Will County Land Use  
Department*

