

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



Earth Day, Earth Week, Earth Month!

April offers opportunities galore to improve the environment in your home, your yard or your community. Consider being part of a collection event, planting a garden, a tree or creating a bioswale! Homes, office buildings, schools and many others can plant some vegetables, flowers, bushes! Clean out basements, crawlspaces and closets! Participate in one of our collection events or donate to thrift store! Host or shop a garage sale! Green your world!

[Visit Our Website](#)

Upcoming HHW & Electronic Collection Events

Old TVs, computers, stereo equipment, along with cleaners, pesticides, automotive fluids, and even medicine can be dropped off at these Will County collection events!

**APRIL 8TH
ELECTRONIC
& HOUSEHOLD
HAZARDOUS
WASTE
COLLECTION**

willcountygreen.com
The will power to rethink, renew, reduce and recycle.

TROY MIDDLE SCHOOL • 5800 W. THEODORE ST • PLAINFIELD

[Click for Event Details.](#)

Saturday, April 8, 2017 8am to 3pm
Troy Middle School (near Joliet & Shorewood)
5800 W. Theodore St.
Plainfield, IL 60586

Saturday, May 6, 2017 8am to 3pm
Washington Township Center
30200 Town Center Road
Beecher, IL 60401

Participate in Earth Month at JJC



Joliet Junior College is offering a variety of opportunities throughout the month of April to learn more and do more for the environment. Please click [here](#) to see the dates and activities, including presentations, movies, litter clean up, environmental fair and much more!

[Earth Month Events at JJC and beyond](#)

[Recycle LED lights!](#)

LED lights are amazing. They are super energy efficient and usually last longer than both their predecessors, incandescent and CFLs. They do not contain mercury but they are made with lead and nickel. Consequently, it is best to recycle them. We accept them in string light, night light and all other forms at our Household Hazardous Collection Events.



[Earth Day Photo Contest - Chance to win an iPad](#)

Will County is offering an Earth Day Photo Contest. Photos will be accepted anytime between now and April 24. All photos must be taken within Will County within the last two years. The photo subject must include a person who lives or works within Will County.

The photo must be relevant to one of the following contest categories:

- * Recycling
- * Reuse
- * Gardening or Composting
- * Energy Efficiency
- * Waste Reduction
- * Water Conservation



[2017 Earth Day Photo Contest Rules](#)

[Green Drinks - Wed, April 12](#)

The Land Conservancy of Will County sponsors about six evening "green drinks" programs each year. "Green Drinks" is a social networking group for professionals in environmental fields, volunteers, and anyone interested in environmental issues. This month they are meeting at the Tin Roof in downtown Joliet.



The event starts at 6pm and is FREE. Food and drink are available for purchase.

April 22 - EARTH DAY

Consider celebrating by the joining the **March for Science**, a first of its kind event to honor the importance of real science. The Chicago area is known for great scientific feats, from the first controlled nuclear reaction, to invention of the cell phone, zipper and the fun Ferris wheel! At **Brookfield Zoo**, they are planting flowers and trees as well as hosting a collection event for sports balls on Sunday, April 23! The **Frankfort Park District** is offering paper shredding, bounce houses, and educational presentations over the weekend.



National Gardening Month

April is a wonderful time to begin a garden. Every yard can have one, as they can be made of any size and consist of flowers, bushes, or vegetable plants. A low area of the yard, the space that may remain soggy after a significant rain, is a great place to put plants that require more water, while high ground is better for the drought resistant species. No matter what or where you plant, working in the garden has proven health benefits! Happy planting!



National Park Week

Will County is home to hundreds of parks, not counting our [Forest Preserves](#) or the [Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie](#). The parks offer playground areas, picnic grounds, scenic hiking trails, and hundreds of miles of bicycle trails, April 15-23 is National Park Week and while Illinois has a few national parks, we also have State parks and local parks close to home for everyone to enjoy!



Nominate your Organization!

Since 1987, the Illinois Sustainability Award has recognized private and public Illinois organizations who have implemented outstanding and innovative sustainable techniques or technologies, demonstrating a commitment to sustaining our environmental, social and economic health. This is an opportunity for you to nominate your



business, non-profit or unit of local government for saving energy, conserving water, and recycling. The deadline is May 4.

[More Info](#)

Schools learn about Composting!

In March, 32 school and municipal representatives attended Will County's first **Recycling & Food Waste Workshop**. Ten school districts attended to get ideas on how to decrease lunch waste and learn about sending food scraps to a commercial compost site in Romeoville. After a tour of the site, the group attended a workshop to hear from experts on how to set up food scrap collections. Tim Keeley from Naperville/Aurora district 204 talked about the district's moves to find green alternatives to Styrofoam and miscellaneous waste. Kay McKeen from SCARCE talked about how to start a food donation table in lunchrooms and how to best donate this food inside the school and in the community. Other speakers from WM, Chamness Biodegradables, the US EPA and Will County rounded out the presentations. The event was hosted by Lewis University which is currently recycling both kitchen scraps and student food scraps.



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!

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

Electronics & Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event
Troy Middle School
Shorewood/Joliet
April 8

Earth Day
April 22
(be sure to send a photo of a green activity for a chance to win an iPad)

Gym Shoe & Textile Collection Week
County Office
Joliet
May 1,2,3,4,5

Electronics & Household Hazardous Waste Collection
Township Building
Beecher
May 6

Document Destruction
Fountaindale Library
Bolingbrook
May 20

Bluestem Earth Festival
Unv. of St. Francis
Joliet
May 20

Book Reuse & Recycling Event
Pilcher Park
Joliet
June 2,3,4



Will County | Land Use | Resource Recovery & Energy
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