

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



## Kicking the Summer off in Green Style!

Kick off summer by participating in our annual Book Reuse Event by donating or taking! If you missed our three one-day HHW collections but want to purge those chemicals, take them to the Regional HHW site. Missed the one-day Electronics collection, use the recurring events, including the new one in Channahon! Get outside and enjoy the sunshine, consider adding solar panels to your roof like the Valley View School District and prevent sunburn with sun screen!

[Visit Our Website](#)

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## Annual Book Reuse June 2, 3 & 4

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday 9am-4pm**

Pilcher Park Nature Center  
2501 Highland Park Drive  
Joliet, IL 60432

Books of all types, from romance and self-help to children's favorites and autobiographies are dropped off and made available to all. Volunteers and county employees sort books in broad categories and set them on tables inside Pilcher Park Nature Center. People of all ages browse the selections, taking as many books as they like FREE of charge.

[More Details](#)



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## Valley View Goes SOLAR!

Installation of solar panels designed to provide energy to five Valley View School District 365U schools began in May with Lukancic Middle School in Romeoville to start. Plans call for installation of solar panels on the roofs of Lukancic and four Bolingbrook schools: Jane Addams, Humphrey, B.J. Ward and Jamie McGee by end of June. The \$5.27 million project is



funded through a lease arrangement that will more than pay for itself in utility cost savings right from the beginning. **Officials estimate over \$9.2 million in cost savings over the next 25 years.** The solar panels, which are extremely reliable and carry a 25-year guarantee, are compatible with the roof structure at all five schools. When completed, the **power generated through the solar panel arrays will provide more than half of the electricity usage in the five schools, including an estimated 72% at Ward and 70% at Humphrey.**

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## Recycle More Plastics with the Lid!

Everyone seems to know they can recycle #1 PET and #2 HDPE plastic bottles. However, many are unaware that #5 PP (abbreviation for Polypropylene) may also be recycled in your curbside service or at one of the County Partnership Recycling Drop-Offs. Simply wipe them out with a sponge or paper napkin, put the lid back on and drop them in your recycling container. While it won't be recycled into a food container again, it may become a garbage or recycling cart, water filtration system, shipping pallet, or automotive battery casing, to name a few!



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## Electronics Recycling Getting Easier

Channahon Township, a former Electronics Recycling partner had to close under the terms of the new program but never gave up! Over the past few months, they worked out an agreement with the Families of Faith Church to become a recurring electronics collection site with support from Township staff and the County's contractor, A-Team Recyclers. They will regularly scheduled the first and third Thursday of each month, beginning on **June 15 from 5pm-7pm**. The address is **24466 W. Eames / Rt. 6 in Channahon**. This makes the 6th location offering year round recycling!



## Regional HHW site makes cleaning the basement a snap!

**Every Saturday & Sunday 9am-2pm**  
Regional HHW Site in Naperville  
180 Fort Hill Drive  
Naperville, IL

Will County, DuPage County and Kane County along with the Illinois EPA fund this year round permanent collection site that accepts cleaners, pesticides, automotive fluids, and even medicine.



[Click for Info.](#)

## Groundbreaking Metra Station in Romeoville

Planning began in 2008 for a Romeoville Metra Station near the Citgo Refinery to serve Will County residents on the Heritage Corridor. 600 parking spaces will make commuting easier, reducing fossil fuel use and congestion. Grants from the state and federal governments will enhance the pedestrian and bicycling options.



## Opt Out of Receiving Phone Books

If you receive a phone book and don't want it, be sure to recycle it. They are accepted in all curbside programs and in all the County partnership traditional drop-offs. Even better than recycling is reducing and this can be done by opting out of receiving it.

1. Visit the [Yellow Pages Opt Out website](#)
2. Enter zip code and create an account
3. After completing registration, click "opt out of or order directories"
4. Choose "opt out of all" option, then "save changes" and hit CONFIRM.

For every 100 unwanted phone books removed from printing and distribution cuts greenhouse gas emissions equal to nearly 2,000 miles driven by a passenger vehicle!



## School Earth Flag Awards

Each year [over 50 schools](#) throughout Will County agree to do a variety of waste reduction, recycling and possibly composting activities to earn our Earth Flag! Our Environmental Educator visits each school, offering a presentation on different topics based on a teacher's request and a ceremony is held at the end of the year recognizing the amazing efforts of teachers and students! An award for the most plastic bag recycling is also given through Trex.



TREX Winner Lincoln Elementary in Plainfield

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## Sharefest expands Sharing Events!

This year the organizations and people behind the amazing success of Sharefest have set a new goal to offer Sharing Events throughout the year in several locations. On **June 3**, they are combining a "Love Thy Neighbor" mobile event with Churches United For Christ. Together they are calling it "Joliet Alive" and offering it under a huge tent on **Chicago St & 3rd Ave, in Joliet from 10am - 5pm**. They will be distributing free food, books, clothes and are in need of volunteers. Please visit their website: [http://www.sharefestnewlenox.com/docs/2017\\_schedule.pdf](http://www.sharefestnewlenox.com/docs/2017_schedule.pdf)



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## Join the Better Buildings Challenge!

Last month Will County staff attended the Better Buildings Summit in Washington, D.C. Will County has been a participant in the U.S. Department of Energy's Better Buildings Challenge for 5 years; a challenge that requires participants to reduce 20% of building portfolio energy use in 10 years. Will County learned about emerging technologies that will make County facilities more energy efficient, costing less to operate each year, while optimizing operations. Several efforts were made in fiscal year 2016-2017 from new lighting, HVAC equipment, hot water heaters, and more to help meet the Challenge goal.



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## Prevent Sunburn!

The sun provides many health benefits, but too much of it can cause sunburn. Long term, those with repeat sunburns risk getting skin cancer. However, even short term the results are costly. The expense of treatments from skin creams to doctor visits should concern you enough to apply



some sun screen liberally and often when you are enjoying your summer days!

### 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

**Book Reuse & Recycling Event**

Pilcher Park  
Nature Center  
Joliet  
**June 2,3,4**  
**9am - 4pm**

**Sharefest's Joliet Alive Event**

Chicago St & 3rd Ave  
Joliet  
**June 3**  
**10am - 5pm**

**Sharefest's Love Thy Neighbor Event**

Fairmont School  
Lockport  
**July 8**  
**10am - 1pm**

**Really, Really FREE Market**

Plainfield United  
Methodist Church  
Plainfield  
**August 5**

**Sharefest's Love Thy Neighbor Event**

White Oak Library  
Romeoville  
**August 9**  
**11am - 1pm**

**Sharefest's RECYCLPALOOZA**

Spencer School  
New Lenox  
**September 9**  
**8am - 3pm**

**Additional Events to be announced**

