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## Spotlight on Carton Recycling



So many of our liquid products are now packaged in cartons but often people don't understand if the package is recyclable. Will County accepts cartons at all our Traditional Recycling Drop-Off locations. They are also taken in communities serviced by NuWay/Homewood Disposal.

Cartons are an efficient way to package liquids. They are



## Be Part of the first **Pumpkin Pitch!**

Will County Office  
302 N Chicago Street  
Joliet, IL 60432

Friday -November 7, 2014  
6am-Noon  
**FREE PRIZES**

Will County has partnered with NuWay/Homewood Disposal and teamed up with WJOL AM1340 radio, the Farm Bureau, the University of IL Extension Office to offer residents a chance to give their Jack-O-Lanterns a second life through composting! Everyone is invited to bring their carved pumpkins to the County Building parking lot on Friday, Nov. 7 (a week after Halloween) from 6am to Noon!

Prizes will be given to all participants - coloring books for all children, and special treats for those pitching their pumpkin 5 feet, 10 feet and over 15 feet! Grand prizes for the furthest pitch or roll are being donated by Heroes West of Joliet!

All pumpkins must be free of candles and lights. This event is not meant for commercial pumpkin retailers. It is a chance for a decorative natural item to be recycled, as all the pumpkins collected will be taken to a site to be mixed and composted. Eventually they will become a highly nutritious soil supplement, feeding future crops, gardens - or perhaps a new pumpkin patch! Be part of the fun and meet WJOL's morning crew from 6am-9am during the live broadcast!

light-weight, reducing shipping costs and related pollution. They are made mostly of paper, a renewable resource. They allow some products to be stored without refrigeration, saving more energy.

Be certain to recycle your empty cartons!

## Contest for Residents



Our third annual call for photos of residents in "green action" is now open! Please submit a photo of yourself or a friend (with permission) in the act of recycling, composting, caulking a window, plugging in an electric car, installing a low-flow faucet, etc.

Email it to [info@willcountygreen.com](mailto:info@willcountygreen.com) by November 1, 2014.

The photo that appears the most inspiring or creative will be selected as the winner. The winner will receive a refurbished iPad2 with one-year warranty. (entrants agree to allow publication of the photo, winner allows name to be published with photo)

## Contest for Non-Profits

## Will County Cuts Paper Use!

The Will County Board has begun its transition to a paperless meeting environment. The goal is to communicate and conduct the meeting of the Will County Board and its committees in an entirely digital format by Dec 1, 2014. As of November 30, 2014 the County Board Administrative Office will no longer provide paper agenda copies.



Prior to the transition to "board management software" an estimated 30,000+ sheets of paper were used per month for committee agendas, county board agendas and additional correspondence that was distributed to board members. That figure has now dropped to under 7,500 sheets and will continue to decrease once everyone has become accustomed to the system. This change has also decreased the amount of envelopes, discs and mailers that were used to deliver the agendas each month.

If you wish a copy of the County Board agenda, please view it online at:

<http://willcountyil.iqm2.com/Citizens>

## Gompers Gets a Garden!



Will County's 2012 Energy & Conservation Plan included a call for locally grown food. The benefits of growing a diversity of food locally are many, including a strengthening of the local economy, less transportation energy use and better understanding of a basic life need.

Students at Gompers Junior High in Joliet planted the first garden as part of the initial **We WILL Grow School and Community Garden Project**. Students grew a variety of tomatoes, squash, onions and even some pumpkins in the courtyard of the schools. County volunteers built and filled the raised bed gardens with soil. County staff educated the children and faculty on growing herbs and vegetables.



This contest is open to all non-profit organizations within Will County and the rules are simple. Complete the application found on our website and return it by November 1, 2014. The entries will be scored and the two non-profit organizations found to be both "green" and able to utilize the iPad2 devices the best will win!

While we realize that not every non-profit may need an iPad to assist them in their mission, they may find it useful in other ways. Regardless, we will

recognize everyone that applies on our website. In addition, if they have some great "green" practices to share, we will profile them right here in our newsletter.

Share this opportunity with non-profits you like and invite them to be part of our inaugural America Recycles Day Green Non-Profit Contest!

**Drop-Off Sites  
Available Weekly**

While the garden is not intended to provide all the food needed for meals, it is meant to familiarize the students with the variety of foods possible to grow in a back yard or windowsill. Some of the food grown over the summer and fall was donated to Morning Star mission.

October is national Farm to School month and Will County wants to assist more schools with on-site gardens. If you are interested in starting or rejuvenating a school garden, please visit our [WILL Grow website page](#).

## Landlords Get Tips & Cut Energy Bills



City of Joliet is offering two three-hour seminars to landlords throughout Will County. This is a free event for building owners to learn more about money-saving improvements for their buildings, current fair housing rules, fire safety, the eviction process, and more relevant topics to being a building owner. Elevate Energy and Community Investment Corporation will be co-hosting the event.

There are two opportunities to attend: Monday October 20th from 6-9pm or Tuesday October 21st 9-12pm.

## FREE Latex Paint



The New Lenox Township office and Sharefest organization have joined forces to offer remixed latex paint to residents and businesses throughout Will County! The paint has been screened and remixed into 5-gallon buckets. There are over 200 gallons currently available. Colors include: tan, light blue, a few white, green, purple, brown, and gray.

The latex paint will only be available a few more weeks, then it will need to be recycled due to storage issues. If you or someone you know can use some paint, please call or email Gary on the Sharefest line at 815-717-2614 or [gary@sharefestnewlenox.com](mailto:gary@sharefestnewlenox.com) today!

(click to see locations and hours of operation)

[Battery Recycling](#)

[Latex Paint Recycling Retailers](#)

[Medication Take-Back](#)

[Electronic Recycling Drop-Off Sites](#)

[Textile Donation or Drop-Off Sites](#)

[Traditional Recycling Drop-Off Sites](#)  
(Bottles, Cans, Paper, Cardboard)

[Tire Recycling Retailers](#)

**Mark Your Calendar  
2014**

**Mon or Tue  
Oct. 20 or 21  
Landlord Seminar  
Joliet**

**Thursday  
Oct. 24  
National Food Day**

**Saturday  
Oct. 25  
HHW & Electronics  
Collection Event**

## Household Hazardous Waste & Electronics Collection Event

Saturday October 25 - 8am to 3pm

Peotone High School

605 W. North Street

Peotone, IL 60468

Clean out the hazardous chemicals in your home and recycle the unwanted electronic devices! This event accepts:

\* Oil-Based Paints and Stains, Spray Paint, Aerosol Paints \* Paint Thinners \* Solvents \* Drain Cleaners \* Old/Unwanted Medication \* Cleaning Products \* Rechargeable Batteries, Automotive/ Boat Batteries \* Mercury & mercury items \* Pesticides \* Lawn & garden chemicals and fertilizers \* Motor Oil, Used Oil Filters, Old gasoline, Antifreeze, All Automotive Fluids \* Fluorescent Light Bulbs, Compact Fluorescent Bulbs (CFLs) \* Pool Chemicals \* Driveway Sealer

Electronics that are broken or simply unwanted, include:

\* Personal Computers (PCs), Laptops, Monitors, Keyboards, Electronic Mice, Modems, Hard Drives, CD ROM/Zip/Tape Drives, Cords, Cables, USBs, Power Strips, UPS (Battery Backups), CDs, DVDs, VHS Tapes, Floppies, any computer related items; \* Printers (laser, ink jet, dot matrix, etc.), Copier, Fax, Scanners; \* Televisions, VCRs, DVD Players, Laser Disc Players, Blue Rays, Cable and Satellite Receivers, Digital Converter Boxes, Remote Control Devices, Radios, MP3 players, Two-way Radios, Speakers, Stereo Systems; \* Telephones, Cell Phones, Pagers, Answering Machines, Handheld Devices (palm organizers, games, joysticks, game control devices); \* Cameras, Video Equipment, Projectors; \* Microwaves, Digital Clocks, Coffee Makers (no glass), Blenders (no glass), Bread Makers, Fryers, Food Sealing Equipment, Electric Knives, Massagers, Toaster Ovens; \* Hair Dryers, Curling or

• Straightening Irons, Electric Tooth Brushes, Shaving Equipment; \* Vacuum Cleaners (no bags), Carpet Sweeper, Fans, Heaters; \* String Lights and much more!

We are also offering folks that have purchased Rain Barrels and Compost Bins through our internet partner, the opportunity to pick up the items to avoid a delivery fee!



8am-3pm  
Peotone

**Saturday**  
**Nov. 1**  
Tire Collection  
8am-3pm  
University Park

**Nov. 7**  
Pumpkin Pitch  
6am-Noon  
Joliet

**Nov. 12**  
Best Operational  
Practices for a  
Recycling Drop-Off  
1pm-3pm  
Joliet

**November 15**  
America Recycles Day

**2015**

**March 28**  
Earth Hour  
8:30pm-9:30pm

**April 22**  
Earth Day  
45th Anniversary

**April 24**  
Arbor Day

**May 30**  
Bluestem Earth



## FREE Tire Recycling Event!

Saturday, November 1 - 8am to 3pm  
University Park Towncenter Mall  
60 Towncenter Drive  
University Park, IL 60432



Will County is offering residents an opportunity to recycle old tires at no charge. Whenever you purchase a tire in Illinois, there is a fee paid for recycling but some people keep tires for spares or other uses. A fee is charged when these tires are finally returned. On Sat, Nov. 1, Will County is paying the fee!

- The event is open to Will County residents only.
- Car, light truck and farm tires will be accepted.
- Off rim or on rim will be accepted.
- No heavily soiled tires!
- No business, industrial or off-road tires.

All participants must be able to unload their own tires.

## Enjoy Knock Knolls Nature Center

A new 5,000 sq ft Nature Center opened this month in Naperville. This is a staffed facility, offering classrooms, exhibit space, an interactive wall map of the DuPage River watershed and a 900-gallon aquarium containing fish that inhabit local waterways. Outside offers something for everyone with an interpretative trail featuring self guided informational signs, a playground with a nature theme, and an 18-hole Disc Golf course.



**Festival**  
10am-4pm

Join Our Mailing List!



October 2014

The building presents several green enhancements, such as solar panels, a partial "green" roof, and cisterns to recycle roof water for use in the building's restrooms. Visit this new natural attraction from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and from noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays. For more information, go to [napervilleparks.org/knochknolls](http://napervilleparks.org/knochknolls).

See more photos from events and learn more about area "green" efforts by becoming a fan of our [Facebook Page](#)