



[Visit Our Website](#)

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

Enjoying a Green Moment

September is our between time, with kids back in school, summer in its twilight and autumn entering the scene. We welcome this time to clean out, reorganize and prepare for the cooler temps ahead. Its a time to reconnect, if not at the bus stop or in the car line, or the football game, perhaps on a walk at a park or forest preserve. We are offering some events and tips for you, along with information on how to make each day, Earth Day in Will County.

[Visit Our Website](#)

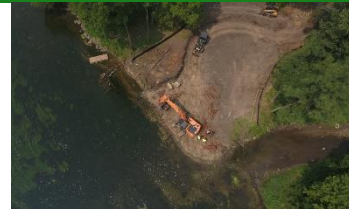
Recyclepalooza Sept. 11

Thanks to volunteer support from [Sharefest](#), we are offering our amazing recycling collection the second Saturday of September as we have every year since 2007 (except last year). We will accept Electronics and Household Hazardous items, along with much more! Wood, included treated lumber, scrap metal, foam plastic (Styrofoam), Clothing in good condition, Toys for donation, small home goods for reuse, including cookware. American Flags will be taken for ceremonial destruction. Blankets and donations for the Animal shelter also being accepted. Make your appointment at <http://www.willcountygreen.com/>



Dam Removal Improves Stream

The Forest Preserve District of Will County has been busy this summer with the Hammel Woods Dam removal and modification project in Shorewood. The project, which began in July, will improve the health of the DuPage River and make it safer for paddlers. After the dam is removed, natural river rocks will be added near the banks to create “riffles” that will oxygenate the water. Native vegetation will be planted later to stabilize the riverbank. Removal of the dam will return the river to a more natural state by allowing aquatic species to move upstream. For more information, [visit](#) the Forest Preserve’s website.



Schools Sign Up for Earth Flag

Since 1998 Will County has offered schools that reduce waste and recycle an opportunity to earn an Earth Flag for their efforts. Our Environmental Educator, a certified teacher, offers a presentation and tips, along with the recognition. Schools that earn their Flag, may participate the following year and continue to receive presentations and be eligible for programs, such as a vermicomposter for the classroom, and more. [Please click this link to visit our website page to learn more!](#)



Electronics & HHW Sept. 25

Homer Glen is partnering with Will County to bring another Household Hazardous Waste collection to the area. Electronics will be offered the same day to allow all those in Will County an opportunity to recycle and properly dispose of these items. The event will run from 8am to 3pm on Saturday, Sept 25 by APPOINTMENT ONLY. Please [click this link](#) to see a list of products accepted and make your appointment. This will be the last Household Hazardous one-day collection in Will County for 2021.



Saturday, September 25, 2021
[Appointment Required](#)
Homer Glen
8am to 3pm

Solar News for Illinois

A bill has been in the works for some time to increase clean energy, including solar. The Illinois Solar Energy Association just sent a notice asking for support of Senate Bill 0018 to keep several nuclear power plants running and grow solar and wind in Illinois. The House is considering it now and if you are interested in learning more, please [visit ISEA's website](#).



Electrification of Fleets

ComEd and others are working with businesses that utilize vehicle fleets to provide their services with an eye to switching them to electric. The City of Chicago recently received a grant to focus on an [electric cargo-bike](#) pilot program for deliveries, and a program to encourage businesses to transition to [electric vehicle](#) fleets. Amazon is purchasing 100,000 trucks from Rivian in central Illinois. Lion is expected to be operational next year, in Joliet/Channahon, making 20,000 medium-duty electric trucks and school buses annually.



Add a Beautiful Bike Rack

Madrex recently showcased a bike rack made to inspire! This bicycle storage shed was an excellent addition to this apartment complex. The shed offers some shelter from the weather and is furnished with vertical and horizontal bike storage options catering to bikers at all levels. This could be added to business, school or community gathering locations to encourage more active transportation.



High Speed Rail Jump Start

A bill (HB 399) to create a High-Speed Rail Commission was passed and signed to jump start efforts to establish a statewide plan for a high-speed rail. The commission will be responsible for creating a statewide plan and feeder network connecting Chicago to St. Louis, MO. It would be integrated with existing Amtrak and Metra services, intercity bus service and connect to the cities of Rockford, Moline, Peoria and Decatur. A ridership study is expected to be done to make recommendations concerning a governance structure, the frequency of service, and implementation of the plan. The Commission is expected to provide yearly reports and be assisted by the Department of Transportation.



Car Seat Recycling

Beginning Sept. 12, Target is offering customers the opportunity to recycle an old, expired or damaged car seat and redeem a coupon on their Target app or Target.com/circle for 20% off one car seat, stroller or select baby gear. Materials from the old car seats will be recycled. Target has offered similar, **limited time**, events since 2016 but no end date appears on their website. If you wish to participate, please visit your local store.



Cut the Salt this winter

The Conservation Foundation is working to reduce runoff from salt that harms our soil and waterways. They are offering deicing workshops in late September and early October. Some are for Public Roads, Public Parking Lots & Sidewalks. At least two are specifically for Parking Lots and Sidewalks to use with park districts, schools, and private contractors serving



Public Roads - 8am-12pm
Thursday September 30, 2021
Tuesday October 5, 2021

shopping centers and business parking lots.
Please share with your facility folks and others.
[Click for registration info.](#)

Tuesday October 12, 2021
Parking Lots & Sidewalks - 8am-12pm
Tuesday September 28, 2021
Thursday October 7, 2021

Composting 101 Success

The RR&E Educator, Joan O'Keefe, presented *Composting 101* at the West Branch of the Joliet Library in mid-August. Over a dozen registrants learned how to turn a plastic garbage receptacle into a compost bin. Using a simple handheld drill and bungee cords makes this approach one of the least costly. The deluxe composter sold through Will County last Spring was also shown and explained. Lastly, composting rules for unincorporated and incorporated areas were discussed along with a worm composting bin for apartment dwellers and school classrooms. This event followed an Earth Day WEBEX class and live event held at Plum Creek Nature Center in Beecher in July. Additional events are being planned for the Fall and Winter at Joliet Junior College.



Buy Recycled Content Items

Patagonia has been recycling plastic soda bottles into fleece since 1993! Today most of its Capilene base layers, shell jackets, board shorts, and fleece incorporate recycled polyester. The iconic Nano Puff has a 100 percent recycled polyester shell, with PrimaLoft Gold Insulation Eco that is made up of 55 percent recycled content. Bonus, when you're done with it, you can trade it in at a Patagonia location, to be sold through the company's [Worn Wear](#) program.



Facebook Fan Asks DIY Oil Change Recycling

Motor oil gets dirty while powering your engine, but these elements can be removed infinitely when oil is re-refined. It requires less energy to make a gallon of re-refined oil than crude oil,



and a gallon of used oil offers 2.5 quarts of lubricating oil, equal to 42 gallons of crude oil. Oil filters are easily recycled, capturing the steel and remaining oil. When changing your oil, use a screwdriver to puncture the dome of your used oil filter, then turn it upside down and let it drain into the motor oil container overnight. Put your oil filter in a plastic bag once it is fully drained. Bring both to a HHW collection or participating retail oil service station.

Upcoming Events

Sept 11: Recyclepalooza in New Lenox

Sept 25: Electronics and Household Hazardous Waste Event in Homer Glen

October: Energy Awareness Month

Nov 6: Triple Dipper: Pumpkin Pitch with Document Shredding and Electronics at Lewis University in Romeoville

Nov 15: America Recycles Day

December 1-January 31: String Light Recycling



Water Conservation



Search for recycling and disposal options on 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)
58 E. Clinton Street
Joliet, IL 60432
815-727-8834



Will County



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



Will County | Will County - Land Use Dept, Resource Recovery & Energy Div, Joliet, IL 60432
willcountygreen.com

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