



[Visit Our Website](#)

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

# Energy Makes the World Turn

October may have been Energy Awareness Month but we are keeping the momentum going to help you reduce your energy use through efficiency while improving your comfort. November 15 is America Recycles Day but we are celebrating on Nov 6 with compost instructions, some catapulting of pumpkins, shredding of confidential documents and recycling residential electronics. See below for an array of activities that continue to propel green efforts forward.

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# Nov 6 - Three for One Event

For the sixth year in a row, Will County is offering an opportunity to compost your pumpkin in a fun and unique way. Lewis University Physics students will "Catapult" your pumpkin into a container that will be taken to Christiansen Farms for composting. At the same time there will be Master Gardeners offering instruction on how to compost in your own back yard, a truck shredding confidential documents (limit 3 boxes per vehicle) and an Electronics recycling collection (limit 2 TVs per vehicle). Bring the family and join the fun!

Saturday, November 6, 2021

FREE

Lewis Univ - 1 University Parkway - Romeoville  
9am to Noon



## Energy Efficiency 101 - Nov 18

Want a better picture of your energy consumption? Learn how to estimate energy use from various appliances in your home or dorm. In-person attendees can receive free energy-saving devices. This Hands-On Workshop will be held in-person on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 2:00pm, at Lewis University's Science Building, Room AS 104-C. One University Parkway, Romeoville, IL. [Register for In-Person Session Here!](#)



Thursday, November 18, 2021  
In-person at Lewis Univ  
[Please register 2pm-3pm](#)

## Energy 101 - Utility Bill Clinics

Have questions about your energy bills? Sign up for a 30-minute one-on-one consultation with a CUB representative to review your ComEd and/or Nicor bills. Read more about CUB's Utility Bill Clinics on [CUB's website](#).

Half-Hour Virtual Energy Bill Consultations  
[Tuesday, December 7, between 6 – 8pm](#)  
[Thursday, December 9, between 6 – 8pm](#)



## Pumpkin Roll at the Preserve

Don't put your pumpkins in the garbage; bring them to Plum Creek Nature Center for pumpkin composting! Stop at the nature center to have your pumpkin inspected to ensure it is clear for composting, then give it a final sendoff by rolling it down a 40-foot hill before dropping it in the compost container. This ongoing program runs Saturdays and Sundays from November 6 to 28. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and noon to 4 p.m. Sundays. Please register [at this link](#).



If you miss Lewis on Nov 6th,  
this program runs all month

## Joliet Cunningham School Garden

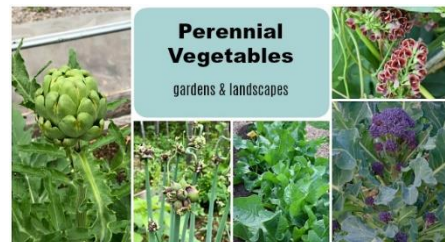
Will County Master Gardeners spent some time at Cunningham school in October teaching some very bright kindergarten students how to plant spring flowering bulbs. The students enjoyed the experience and are looking forward to seeing the beautiful flowers that bloom in the Spring!



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## Herbs and More Nov 3 at 7pm

Learn how adding edible perennial plants and food-bearing shrubs and trees to your garden and yard can result in producing more food with less work than annual vegetable and herb gardening. Find out which edible native plants and other edible perennials flourish in the greater Chicagoland area and how these plants benefit wildlife and the ecosystem too. Sponsored by Itasca Bank & Trust Co. and The Conservation Foundation. [Register here!](#)



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## Turn the Clock Back Nov 6

When you reset the microwave and clocks, be sure to change the batteries in your smoke detector(s) and the furnace air filter! The filter may be a monthly chore or seasonal depending on your system, but use this time as a reminder. When changing the battery, consider switching to rechargeable batteries which can be recycled at several locations in the area and last a long time.



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## Leave the Leaves

As the leaves are falling, the best thing you can do for your yard and the ecosystem it supports is leave your leaves on the lawn! Mow the grass and they will degrade, feeding your grass, plants and the beneficial insects all winter. If you must rake them, build a compost pile, add some food scraps (potato peels, apple cores, orange rinds) and mix. Enjoy a natural fertilizer in the Spring!



## Solar Array at Lewis University

Over the last few months Lewis University has been building a solar array consisting of 2,612 solar panels, expected to generate over 7% of the electricity used on campus. This project will also provide transformative experiences for students. Electrical engineering, computer science and environmental science students are expected to gain valuable field experience as they have access to the solar array to learn the operations of the system and conduct research.



## ParaTransit Study with PACE

Will County will be receiving a \$200,000 grant from Pace Suburban Bus (Pace) to evaluate paratransit services in the county and identify future improvements. The study will evaluate existing paratransit services in the county, identify gaps in service relative to community needs, and recommend systemwide improvements. The overall objective is to develop a sustainable, implementable plan for improving mobility options in Will County for targeted user groups, such as seniors, people with disabilities, and those with lower incomes.



## Reducing Confusion

If you've been listening to world news, you've heard about the Climate Change Conference (COP26) being held this month. There are [multiple sources of information](#) but here is [one from Yale](#) on the need for everyone to work together to reduce emissions. Please know that several global companies have been making commitments to utilize solar, wind, nuclear, and biomass fuels while increasing energy efficiency and switching away from combustion engines. All of us can make an impact, make better choices, and reduce pollution.



## Oct Energy Programs a Success

**Webinars a Success:** Over a dozen local residents joined our Energy Specialist and speakers from the Citizens Utility Board, JJC, and Lewis to discuss practical efficiency strategies to increase comfort and save money at home. During the live lunch and evening webinar sessions, presenters also covered the impacts of Illinois energy policy and shared an efficiency pledge with useful guides for implementing energy-saving practices. A recording of one of the sessions will be made available in coming weeks—please stay tuned to the [Energy Efficiency Fall Series page](#) for more updates.



**C-PACE Info Session Presented October 25:** Will County, the Illinois Energy Conservation Authority NFP (IECA), and participating businesses successfully promoted Will County's new Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) program through an information session in Joliet. Several property owners learned about the program's potential to spur job creation, economic development, and sustainability in their businesses and communities. Future sessions are already in the works to continue spreading the word about this effective efficiency program. C-PACE offers fixed-rate interest, long-term financing for energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation, and resiliency projects on commercial and industrial properties. For more information, please visit the [Will](#)



[County C-PACE page](#) and the [IECA C-PACE page](#).

## Buy Recycled Content Items

Need a good stretch, try Yoga! You may want to get a comfortable mat for the downward facing dog pose, and may we suggest one that has the relaxing scent of the ocean? At least that is what we are told. These yoga mats are made from wet suits in California. No worries they will be stuck on a shipping container off the coast! 100% made in the USA. Learn more at [www.sugamats.com](http://www.sugamats.com)



## Facebook Fan Asks about Washing Clothes?

We all want long lasting clothes but often we don't care for them properly, reducing their useful life. Did you know we don't need to wash them after every wear? The less washing and more air drying the better. Cold water retains the color. We should spot treat rather than wash a second time and always check the tags for special care instructions.



## Upcoming Events

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

Nov 6: Set the clock back an hour and change the batteries and air filter

Nov 18: Energy Efficiency for Homes 101 - In-Person Training

Nov 15: America Recycles Day

Dec 7: Energy Efficiency for Homes 101 - Review Bills with CUB

Dec 9: Energy Efficiency for Homes 101 - Review Bills with CUB

December 1-January 31: String Light Recycling



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)  
58 E. Clinton Street  
Joliet, IL 60432  
815-727-8834



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

**Will County**  
Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant  
County Executive

