



[Visit Our Website](#)

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

May Flowers are Blooming

May is filled with color but green is the most striking as the grass glows an iridescent green and leaves return to the trees. Be sure to get outside, ride your bike, and make the most of these lovely days. Participate in our events as you do your spring cleaning with opportunities to recycle clothing, donate unwanted items, drop-off the obsolete electronics and hazardous chemicals. Start your garden and compost. Be sure you are recycling properly and follow us on our social media for more tips and ideas.

[Visit Our Website](#)

May 2 - 6 Textile Reuse/Recycling

Its time to pull out the winter clothes you didn't wear, the summer clothes you don't want along with linens, drapes, pillows and shoes of all types. Bring them to the County Building parking lot Monday through Friday May 2 through 6 from 8:30am to 4:30pm to donate for Reuse or Recycling. Helping Hands is partnering by staffing a truck and accepting small home goods in good condition along with clean fabric items that may be ripped or stained. If needed they offer a donation receipt as they make a contribution to ShareFestWillCounty.org and distribute items to local thrift stores as well overseas for reuse and recycling.



Friday, May 6 - 5:30am Opening
with WJOL AM1340
Scott Slocum and the morning crew

On-air Interviews about Resource Recovery and
Energy Topics until 9am, including,
Will County Executive
Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant

May 14 Electronics & HHW Event

On Saturday, May 14, we will be collecting televisions, computers, laptops, keyboards, stereos, boom boxes, cassette players, Xboxes, cords, cables, power tools, and electronic items of nearly every kind. We will also be accepting household hazards such as pool chemicals, expired medications, unwanted cleaning fluids, all automotive liquids, mercury containing items, paint (limit 15 gallons) and lights, such as LEDs, CFLS and fluorescent lamps (limit 15 tubes). Click this link for a full list of accepted and non-accepted items and to make an [appointment](#)!



Make an Appointment
[May 14 - Bolingbrook \(Electronics & HHW\)](#)

May 3 - Clean Driving Expo

Transportation options continue to expand. The days of regular vs diesel are behind us with a variety of model electric powered vehicles, compressed natural gas trucks, hydrogen as a power source and more. The Annual Green Drives Conference is being held in Naperville on Tuesday, May 3 and is known as one of the largest clean transportation conferences held in the Midwest. Recommended for government officials, commercial and municipal fleet managers, corporate sustainability officers, and clean-tech and clean-energy professionals. Click this [link to learn more](#).



International Compost Awareness Week

The first week of May is International Compost Awareness Week. If you are starting or re-starting a garden, nutrient rich compost can be a key to your success. Compost may be purchased at garden centers and some compost sites, as well as made with your own grass, leaves, and food scraps. Instructions for composting and ideas for compost bins are on our [website](#).



Unv of St. Francis Weaves Plastic

For several years, the University of St. Francis collected plastic bags as part of a world-wide project to recycle the bags into plarn (plastic yarn), then crochet or weave them into mats for the homeless. This year, the Sustainability Committee decided to move the project forward with the help of the University Chaplain, who is also a master weaver. USF students, faculty, and staff have been engaged in the surprisingly relaxing and productive process of “plarning,” recycling thousands of bags in the process.



Health Dept Cleans for the Earth

The Will County Health Department took on the chore of cleaning up litter from their building sites in Joliet on April 22. They gathered over a dozen bags of material, mostly disposable cups and plastic items that couldn't be recycled. They make every effort to recycle inside, with numerous recycling stations throughout the offices and public areas. They also have an EV charging station in front for staff or visitors to reduce pollution in various forms.



National Bike to Work Day

Friday, May 20, 2022 is National Bike-to-Work Day. The idea is to find ways to reduce travel by vehicle when possible. The hope is the weather cooperates to allow adults to bike to work and children to bike to school in a safe manner. Perhaps you will find more days and soon you are biking to work Spring, Summer and Fall. Perhaps you are even getting rewarded by your employer. We are told one environmental consulting firm in the area pays employees 74 cents for each mile biked! Let us know if you join the fun!



[Click to learn more](#)

June Book Reuse & Recycling

Books, books, and more books - that is the theme of the annual Book Reuse and Recycling Event at Pilcher Park Nature Center on June 3, 4, and 5 from 9am to 4pm. Everyone is invited to bring books they no longer need share them with others. All books are available for FREE. Volunteers, age high school to adult, sort the books onto tables in broad categories from cooking and romance to biography and crime fiction. There is a room dedicated to children's books. All books remaining on Sunday afternoon will be recycled. Enjoy our Literary Extravaganza!



Pilcher Park Nature Center
2501 Highland Park Dr, Joliet, IL 60432
Friday, Saturday, Sunday
June 3-5 9am-4pm

Loan for Improved Efficiency

Will County offers a Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) finance program to Will County commercial property owners. C-PACE is an innovative tool that enables commercial property owners to obtain **up to 100% long-term, fixed-rate financing for energy efficiency, renewable energy, resiliency, water use and electric vehicle charging building improvements.** For detailed information please visit the [Overview](#) page. To submit a Pre-Application, click [here](#).



[Click for more Information](#)

State Reduces Plastic Purchases

The state legislature passed Senate Bill 1915 to restrict the procurement of single use plastics by state agencies. The department of natural resources lead the effort due to concerns for wildlife impacted by litter. While the State Fair is exempt, and there are allowances to meet the needs of disabled clients, most state offices will no longer purchase straws and polystyrene items.



Reducing Confusion - Make Aluminum Balls

Everyone knows aluminum cans are recyclable but questions abound on foil and bakeware. How clean is clean? Are candy wrappers (such as Hershey Kiss foil) recyclable?

Small stains for tomato sauce are tolerated. Sheets and small pieces need to be balled up to tennis or baseball sizes and paper should be pulled off if you are dedicated enough to want to do the foil wrap from a stick of gum.



Power Your Home with Solar

The Illinois Solar Energy Association is a non-profit offering educational webinars on the basics to know if you want to power your home with solar energy. Attend any either one of the these upcoming webinars:

[Powering Your Home with Solar Energy](#)

12 May 2022 7:00 PM - Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvfu6oqj0sHt0WG5nyALCzjmxMnO28Kpt>

[Powering Your Home with Solar Energy](#)

13 Jun 2022 1:00 PM - Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZildOGgqTsrE91u80yyDVJTjyy8cC07cwz->



Recycled Content Apparel

Recover Brands believes in using all kinds of recycled materials to make their products, including everything from cotton swept off the factory floor to polyester made from recycled plastic barrels and soda bottles. The company has even reduced the amount of dye in their products, completely eliminated plastic packaging and improved their manufacturing process to reduce their overall energy use. [Click to learn more!](#)



Mixing Baseball and Water in June

On June 14 the County and City of Joliet are teaming up to offer a fun filled evening of baseball with the Slammers and some water conservation tips. There will be raffle prizes and more so consider purchasing tickets: \$2 in advance and \$3 on game day.



Facebook: Toothpaste Tubes

Colgate spent time and effort to develop a toothpaste tube made from #2 plastic and instructing consumers to recycle it after checking with their local community. We have checked with every recycling facility in the area and NO ONE is accepting it. Obviously, you cannot wipe it out so there is toothpaste left in it and it is not recognized by people or machines as accepted, nor has any recycler that takes plastic #2 come forward to say they will accept. For now, it is a purely false assertion. Place in the garbage.



Upcoming Events

- May 2-6: Textile Collection at the County Building in Joliet
- May 4: Compost Bin Pick-Up at the County Building in Joliet
- May 14: Electronics and Household Hazardous Waste Collection in Bolingbrook
- May 20: National Bike-to-Work Day
- June 3,4,5: Book Reuse and Recycling Event in Joliet
- June 14: Water Conservation with the Slammers in Joliet
- July 30: Love in Action Monee Shred Event



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



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

Will County
Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant
County Executive



Will County | Will County - Land Use Dept, Resource Recovery & Energy, 58 E. Clinton Street,
Joliet, IL 60432 willcountygreen.com

Sent by mkeane@willcountygreen.com powered by

