

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



## Solar Eclipse and Green Tips!

From green drinks and solar gazing to recycling at Sharefest, the ways to improve the environment are ever increasing. A new recycling program for markers may be coming to a school near you and this weekend, you could become enamored with veggies at the 12th annual VegieFest! Even the Will County Court system is providing green space to improve the experiences of the youngest members of our community.

[Visit Our Website](#)

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### Fully Visible Solar Eclipse

Get ready for August 21, 2017. Not since 1918 has a solar eclipse been visible from coast to coast in the United States! This year's will be 90% visible in our area and 100% visible in southern Illinois! However, it is important to wear proper eye protection to view it. NASA offers some advice on viewing, please [click to learn more](#). Be careful when walking or driving because as the event takes place, it may be distracting to those around you.



During a total solar eclipse, the moon blocks out the disk of the sun.  
Credit: NASA/GSFC/CI Lab

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### Sharefest Recyclepalooza

**Saturday, September 9, 2017 8am to 3pm**  
Spencer School Parking Lots  
1701 S. Spencer Road  
New Lenox, IL 60458

Sharefest organizers are trying a new approach for the giveaway portion of Sharefest but the collection program remains the same. It will be the second Saturday of September. Will County and our partners will be in the parking lot of Spencer School accepting: Household Hazardous Waste, Electronics, Styrofoam, Scrap Metal and Wood, along with donations of clothing, books, home goods, items for the Troops and animal shelter items. The Scouts will be collecting torn or faded American Flags for ceremonial destruction as well. For more info, click [Sharefest](#) or to **volunteer**, click [SharefestWillCounty](#).



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## Go To 2050 on August 16!

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) serving Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, McHenry and Will Counties, is offering information on their vision of Northeastern Illinois in 2050 at this month's Green Drinks! The evening event begins at 6pm in Frankfort at Smokey Barbecue. The presentation is FREE, drinks and food are available for purchase. [Join the fun!](#)



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## Green Back-to-School Shopping

Save money and only buy what you can't use from last year! Consider buying items with recycled content, such as pencils and pens, backpacks, pencil pouches, notebooks, 3-ring binders, even gym shoes and lunch boxes. If your store doesn't have these options, ask the manager. They need to know what their customers want!



## Recycle Spent Markers through Crayola!

Crayola, the manufacturer of color markers, is offering a FREE program to schools to collect the plastic used up or dried out markers people of all ages enjoy using. The program is called Crayola ColorCycle. Through this initiative, students in K-12 schools across the continental United States and parts of Canada can collect and repurpose used Crayola markers. To learn more, or to have your child's school sign up, visit [Crayola's Website](#).



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## Garden provides peaceful space

A children's garden outside the offices of the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Will County at the River Valley Juvenile Justice Center in Joliet opened recently. The goal was to provide a peaceful respite for kids waiting on court decisions that may be experiencing stress due to home life situations. Plants, games and a fairy garden offer a relaxed and cheerful space for children. [Click here to learn more about CASA and their important services](#).



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## August 12 & 13 in nearby Lisle

Veggie Fest is an enormous vegetarian food and lifestyle festival in its 12th year! This two-day event will be held from **11am to 8pm on Saturday & Sunday at Benedictine University**, 5700 College Rd., Lisle, IL 60532. With a huge international food court; health professionals speaking on diet, lifestyle, and environmental issues; engaging food demos by restaurant owners, chefs, and authors; an incredible children's tent with face painting, clowns, and crafts; live music; over 100 vendor booths to explore; and free admission and free parking, Veggie Fest has become a highly anticipated summer event in the Chicagoland area.



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## Learning More about our Trees

The Morton Arboretum recently launched a resource at [ChicagoRTL.org](#) to help communities around the area better understand the local tree canopy in hope of improving our quality of life. The data reveals that of the 157 million trees in the seven-county Chicago region, 60% are comprised of fewer than 10 species, which puts the tree canopy at risk should pests or disease appear. The goal is to



establish areas within our region with the greatest need and interest for tree planting and stewardship.

## Comments are starting to come in!

Last month Will County announced the release of our Draft Solid Waste Plan Update. Residents, businesses, non-profits and other units of government are encouraged to read it and send comments. Be part of the future, send your comments of endorsement or suggestions for changes to RRE's Dean Olson and Marta Keane at [DOlson@willcountygreen.com](mailto:DOlson@willcountygreen.com) and [MKeane@willcountygreen.com](mailto:MKeane@willcountygreen.com) The Plan is available on the [willcountygreen.com](http://willcountygreen.com) website and comments will be accepted through October 22, 2017.



## Click for more information:

[Battery Recycling](#)  
[Latex Paint](#)  
[Textiles](#)

[Book Reuse](#)  
[Medication](#)  
[Thermostats](#)

[CFL Recycling](#)  
[Plastic Bags/Film](#)  
[Traditional Drop-Offs](#)

[Electronics](#)  
[Styrofoam](#)  
[Tire Recycling](#)



Play a fun game!



GREEN Business



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

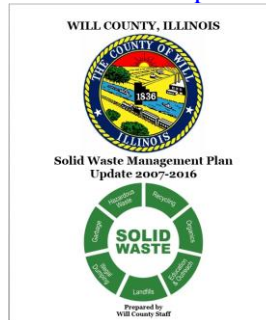
### Sharefest's RECYCLPALOOZA

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

### Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Continental Midland  
Parking Lot  
Park Forest  
**Sat, September 30**  
**8am - 3pm**

### Comment on the Solid Waste Plan Update



### Electronics Only Collection

A-Team's Site  
304 Gregory Ct  
Shorewood  
**Sat, October 7**  
**8am - 1pm**

### Pumpkin Patch & Document Shredding

Lewis University  
Romeoville  
**Sat, November 4**  
**9am - 1pm**

### Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Families of Faith  
Church Parking Lot  
Channahon  
**Sat, November 11**  
**8am - 3pm**

### America Recycles Day

**November 15**