



Spotlight on Latex Paint



Recycling Paint

Nearly everyone has some left over paint taking up space in the basement, garage, shed or storage closet. Most of this paint is latex - meaning it is water based and non-hazardous. While most of us are glad it isn't hazardous, it comes as a surprise to many that it is not taken at a hazardous waste collection event.

Latex paint can be recycled or it can be dried out and discarded with the refuse. To recycle it, residents take it to Ace hardware and pay a fee based on the amount (\$2.50 per gallon currently).

Many residents have asked the County to find a way to make recycling

Lemont Home in National TV Show!

The Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters (CRCC) is spearheading "The Green Home," a state-of-the-art construction project in Lemont. "The Green Home" is an environmentally friendly, energy-efficient home designed for modern comfort and convenience, yet built to challenge the natural elements. Factor in cost-saving, innovative products and the CRCC is raising the bar on construction. One of the goals with building "The Green Home" is to not only comply with the U.S. Department of Energy's Builders Challenge and the U.S. Green Building Council rating system, but advance beyond conventional construction standards.



In a 13-episode series produced by the CRCC in partnership with Lakeshore Public Television, viewers are taken through the construction of a five-bedroom house with an open floor plan that features energy-efficient and sustainable insulated concrete forms (ICFs), a dashboard of residential controls to regulate all lighting, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, appliances, security and other systems with a touch of the finger on a smartphone or device resulting in convenience, energy efficiency and safety benefits. The series will feature skilled carpenters and complementary trades constructing and installing an array of energy-efficient features. The house will use a radiant heat system, which is more efficient than baseboard and forced-air heating systems. High-efficiency light bulbs and smart appliances will be throughout and "The Green Home" will use highly insulated R-5 windows, the top-of-the-line energy-efficient windows. Outside the home, a rainwater retention system will be installed. By capturing rainwater, it can be used for watering gardens or agriculture.

less costly and currently, there is legislation making its way through Springfield to do just that!

House Bill 5457 creates the Paint Stewardship Act. The goal is place the cost of recycling on manufacturers, creating a network of oil-based and latex paint take-back sites throughout Illinois without a user fee. This is also expected to allow Will County to be reimbursed for costs associated from taking paint at collection events.

The legislation is considered Product Stewardship and has many additional benefits. It is expected to reduce disposal, create jobs, cut government costs and increase services to consumers.

Look around your home, do you have some paint taking up space but no where to take it? The Illinois Recycling Association is taking a poll to learn if residents support this effort. Click [here](#) to take their poll, or [email](#) us and let us know!

The program airs regionally on Lakeshore PTV and nationally in more than 50 markets. Tune in to learn more or visit <http://www.builttolasttv.com/the-green-home.html>

Eco-friendly teeth? Moravec Orthodontics!

Greening your life by recycling and reusing or eating fresh, locally grown fruits and veggies may be easy for you, but finding a way to support green efforts of businesses and other organizations in your life may seem difficult.

A Plainfield Orthodontist, with offices in Bolingbrook and Shorewood offers you a great opportunity! Dr. Moravec created his flagship office in an historic home and has embarked on a mission to reduce paper use, recycle and conserve water.

Employees use electronic systems for everything from making appointments, sending reminders to taking and storing scans of your teeth. While the average person may dread getting braces, Moravec Orthodontics makes the process painless and waste free, by digitally scanning patients mouths and never using gooey impression materials.

If you or a family member need specialty dental care, consider supporting a "green" professional.



Steven J. Moravec D.D.S., M.S.
Orthodontics for Children & Adults

Geothermal - Reduce demand, Save \$\$\$

Geothermal takes air from the ground, pumps it into your building and allows heating and cooling systems to work for less time or not at all depending on the season. With a 30% Tax Incentive and the high costs of heating this winter, now is a great time to consider installing a system.



**Mark Your
Calendar
2014**

March 5

Health & Safety
Fair with Severe
Weather Training

New Lenox

March 9

Reset the Clock
Daylight Savings
Time

March 28

National Ag Day

March 29

8:30-9:30pm

Earth Hour

April 22

Earth Day

April 26

Earth Day Fair
Frankfort Square
Park District

April 28-May 2

Textile Collection
Week
Joliet

Saturday

The Energy Improvement and Extension Act (H.R. 1424) offers a tax credit of 30% to homeowners who install a geothermal (ground source heat pump) system on their property. The property must be residential but does not need to be primary residence. (The credit excludes systems used solely for swimming pools and/or hot tubs.) The 30% tax credit counts toward the heat pump, ground loop and related equipment. Labor costs for excavation and installing the loopfield, installing the heat pump, and any other plumbing, wiring and/or ducting needed to make the system work are also included. The system must meet or exceed Energy Star requirements. The credit was capped at \$2,000, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 eliminated the cap. You can install a Geosystem and take full advantage of the 30% tax credit! This legislation is good for installations placed into service from January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2016.

**Earth Hour gets an
Iconic Hero - March
29**

Earth Hour and Sony Pictures have teamed up this year to increase awareness, participation and on-going efforts to reduce energy use around the world!



"I'm proud Spider-Man is the first Super Hero ambassador for Earth Hour because he shows we can all be Super Heroes when we realize the power we all have," says Andrew Garfield, who plays Spider-Man in the upcoming film. "Earth Hour is a movement that has created massive impact around the world, so imagine what we can do this year with Spider-Man by our side."

Earth Hour has grown to involve hundreds of millions of people from all walks of life across 7,000 cities and towns and 154 countries and territories. Jamie Foxx who plays the villain Electro in the film said, "Earth Hour isn't just about lights off; it's about people across the world coming together throughout the year to join forces to improve the planet. Never underestimate your power, never underestimate what you can do."

The official celebration is Saturday, March 29 when people across the globe turn off their lights from 8:30pm to 9:30pm. Since we are in the Western Hemisphere, you can view lights being turned

May 3
HHW &
Electronics
Collection Event
Mokena

Saturday
May 17
Earth Day/Arbor
Day Fair
Homer Glen

Saturday
May 31
HHW &
Electronics
Collection Event
Joliet/Plainfield

Tues & Wed
June 3 & 4
Recycling &
Sustainability
Conference
in Tinley Park

June 6,7,8
Book ReUse &
Document
Shredding Event
Joliet

Saturday
June 14
HHW &
Electronics

off elsewhere through the Earth Hour website and Facebook page during the day. Talk to friends, co-workers, encourage everyone you know to participate and then watch the lights go out! (If it is a clear night, the view of the stars will provide extra entertainment!)

Copy greener!

Last month emphasized the Will County Circuit Courts efforts to become paperless. However, printing needs remain and the County's internal print shop has been "greening" the way for years.



Recently, Michael Thompson, Records Management Director, reported on the paper purchasing.

The vast majority of paper used by Records Management and purchased for use by other departments in their printers, copiers and fax machines is:

- Made from 30% post-consumer recycled fiber.
- From a SFI Certified Source (third party verification of sustainable forestry practices).
- Made with Elemental Chlorine Free (ECF) virgin fiber content.
- Manufactured under alkaline (acid-free) conditions.
- In compliance with the North American governmental standard for post-consumer recycled fiber.

Beyond the paper, Thompson explained, "We are in the process of reducing the environmental impact of our finishing options by providing more environmentally conscious choices. Last year we added a stand-alone tape binder that triples the number of pages that can be bound using 100% recyclable binding tape. And with the addition of our new booklet maker (which uses a couple staples), we are beginning to drastically reduce the number of items that need to be bound using plastic combs and metal/plastic coils" These efforts enhance recycling and reduce waste.

Thompson continued, "We began the year by upgrading the Print Shop with new production printers that use less energy while producing higher quality prints up to 25% faster than the machines they replaced. Our new Oce VP6160 Ultra uses 179.334 kWh less to produce a 2 million print run than its closest

&
Shredding Event
Elwood

Saturday
September 13
Sharefest 2014
New Lenox

November 15
America Recycles
Day

Join Our Mailing List!



February 2014

competitor under consideration."

Additional points anyone thinking of purchasing a printer or copier should consider:

- Some new high-efficiency machines run far cooler than the previous machines, which should result in reduced air conditioning costs.
- They can run far cleaner than the old machines, producing less waste toner.
- They do not require additional consumables, such as developer.



Save Energy Using Natural Light

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