

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



## Summertime and Greening is Easy!

Earth Month and the weeks following have seen amazing participation levels at recycling collection events and environmental fairs! The Household Hazardous Waste Collections in Plainfield and Frankfort broke all previous records for those locations. The Textile & Gym Shoe event collected the second highest total amount and this month, we are offering more opportunities! The Three Day Book Event promises something for everyone!

[Visit Our Website](#)

### Book Event this Weekend



**Book Reuse & Recycling | June 3,4,5 9:00-4:00  
Pilcher Park in Joliet**

Pilcher Park at 2501 Highland Park Drive in Joliet has been the location of the Will County annual Book Collection Event for more than a decade. People may bring unwanted soft and hard cover books to be placed on tables for others to take. Everyone is welcome to take books and any materials remaining shall be recycled.

Share with friends and relatives, there is certain to be something for everyone at the Annual Book Reuse and Recycling Event. These services are provided FREE of charge by the Will County Land

Use Department - Resource Recovery and Energy Division. We deeply appreciate the cooperation of the Joliet Park District in providing Pilcher Park as a host site for this countywide event.

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## School Earth Flag Awards

This year, 47 schools were celebrated at the Will County Earth Awards event at the Rialto Square Theater in Joliet. County Executive Lawrence M. Walsh welcomed the schools to the celebration. The roll call was read and schools came forward to receive their Earth Flags and ribbons. Kids sang along to festive tunes and were raised to their feet during the annual Frisbee throw. The Northern Illinois Raptor Rehab and Education Group then taught the audience about Illinois birds of prey and showed the majestic barn owl (currently endangered in our state). Notable schools attending the event were:



**Reed Custer Middle School**, in Braidwood, where students compost both indoors and out and grew oak trees from acorns while maintaining a hydroponic growing tower.

**Elwood Elementary School**, in Elwood, recycles paper, writing utensils, plastic bags, books and #1 plastic and pop cans through the Pepsi Dream Machine. They have also minimized food and plastic waste through their lunch service provider.

**Kenneth L. Hermansen School**, in Romeoville, met all the usual Earth Flag criteria and went beyond. Tim Fogt, Solar Club Sponsor, enlisted staff and students to put on an Energy Fair for the community. The packed event got parents involved with green science.

**Arlene Welch Elementary**, in Naperville, has a student Green Club that regularly moves recyclables to outside containers after school. They also meet to discuss conservation issues and this year learned how to raise and release monarch butterflies.

**Lockport High School** got their Horticulture club composting with worms and started a school arboretum at East Campus. LTHS District Director of Facilities, William Thompson, also makes it his job to cut energy usage at all school buildings and saves the district money.

Lastly, the Trex Plastic Bag Recycling Winners this year were:

- 1st Place - **Pioneer Path** in Channahon
- 2nd Place - **Frankfort Square School** in Frankfort
- 3rd Place - **Peotone Jr. High** in Peotone

Congratulations to all Earth Flag Schools!

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## Therapy Garden

Trinity Services built its first therapy garden at a residential group home for men in New Lenox. This pilot garden was funded by Will County's We WILL Grow School and Community Garden Program 2016 grant.

The garden provides residents an outdoor activity while teaching the care, cultivation and arrangement of plants and plant-related materials to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. These activities not only educate, but also provide stimulation, exercise and valuable skills. Residents will observe and learn about plant development. If successful, all the food grown will be served at meals resulting in a much lower grocery bill for the house.



[Link to Info](#)

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## Electronic Recycling Update!

Residents of incorporated Plainfield have a curbside option for Electronics Collection for a monthly increase in their service fee as of May 2016.

Residents of incorporated Mokena expect to add a monthly fee in July to provide curbside electronics recycling to residents.

Will County continues to offer a permanent drop-off that takes all banned and many other electronic items at the City of Lockport Public Works on Tuesdays and Fridays from 6am-11am.

New Lenox Township and Peotone Police Department are currently working with the County to offer collection events for electronics starting sometime in July.

The County also plans to offer several one-day collection events later this summer and fall.

FRONT-DOOR TV Collection Service now offered by A-Team Recyclers for \$60  
Please call 800-630-3608 to schedule an appointment.

[Electronics Info](#)

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## Protect your Skin with Sunscreen

Sunscreen use can help prevent skin cancer by protecting you from the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays. Anyone can get skin cancer, regardless of age, gender or race. In fact, it is estimated that one in five Americans will develop skin cancer in their lifetime. The sun is wonderful, and we should all enjoy time outside, but do so safely with proper attire (hats, UV protective clothing, and sunscreen).



## Click for more information:

[Battery Recycling](#)

[Book Reuse](#)

[CFL Recycling](#)

[Electronics](#)

[Latex Paint](#)

[Medication](#)

[Plastic Bags/Film](#)

[Styrofoam](#)

[Textiles](#)

[Thermostats](#)

[Traditional Drop-Offs](#)

[Tire Recycling](#)



Play a fun game!



Business Recognition



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

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## Upcoming Events

**Book ReUse &  
Recycling Event**  
Joliet  
June 3,4,5

**Really, Really FREE  
Market**  
Plainfield  
August 6

**Sharefest  
Collection Event**  
New Lenox  
September 10

**Sharefest  
Giveaway Event**  
New Lenox  
September 17

**Household  
Hazardous Waste  
Collection Event**  
Homer Glen  
October TBA

Additional Events  
to-be-announced



Will County | Land Use | Resource Recovery & Energy  
815-727-8834 | [info@willcountygreen.com](mailto:info@willcountygreen.com) | [www.WillCountyGreen.com](http://www.WillCountyGreen.com)