



Celebrating Success



Sharefest 2013 broke all records

If you missed the annual Sharefest Event in New Lenox on Sept 14, you missed something spectacular! Over 800 vehicles came through the HHW and Recycling Drop-Off portion of the event. Even more came in for the Health & Safety Fair, the Reuse Events, the Food Program, the PAWS services and more!

Sharefest by the numbers:

800 Vehicles Dropped Off HHW and/or Recyclables

Estimated 500 Volunteers

Approx 40,000 pounds of Electronics Accepted

Green Apple Day - Tibbott School!

Saturday, September 28, 10am-2pm

John R. Tibbott School,

520 Gary Drive, Bolingbrook

Last year the Tibbott School in Bolingbrook partnered with the USGBC-Illinois Chapter in the first Green Apple Day of Service. For the event, the school built an edible garden and a rain barrel water saving system for environmental and education purposes. The elementary students planted a variety of vegetables in the Spring and harvested many this past month! Given such success, the school is participating again this year, partnering with Will County to offer a community environmental fair and recycling event!



Will County, working with Vintage Tech Recyclers and USAgain, is offering an electronic and textile collection in the southeast parking lot from 10am to 2pm. All types of electronic devices will be accepted ([click here for the full list](#)) and all types of clothing, shoes and fabric materials will be accepted ([click here for the list](#)).

Beginning at noon, the edible garden will open for tours with a variety of exhibitors offering environmental information. The Forest Preserve of Will County will be joining Hidden Oaks Nature Preserve, Lights for Learning, Will County-Land Use-Resource Recovery and Energy Division, Nicor Energy Tips, Lewis University Recycling and much more to provide money saving ideas and some free give-aways. There will be something for everyone!

HHW&Electronics Collection- Braidwood

Saturday, October 12, 8am-3pm

Reed-Custer High School

249 Comet Dr., Braidwood

Clean out the clutter, make your home safer and healthier by taking out the old, unwanted electronics and hazardous chemical



19,120 pounds of Wood

**FIRST COUNTY
COLLECTION OF
CARPET & PADDING**
2,840 pounds of material

2,700 pounds of Scrap
Metal (funds return to
Sharefest for projects)

The total number of
books that were
collected was 10,548.
Of those, 4,117 books
went back to the
community during
the ShareFest Event.
(216 books went to the
New Lenox Historical
Society; 295 Books are
being distributed to local
charities; 5,920 were
taken after the fair to be
sold, given to libraries
and charities, or
recycled)

Two truck loads of
clothes were taken after
many were distributed to
participants.

An unknown amount of
toys and home goods
were given away and all
the remaining items
were taken to Goodwill.

It will take a few more
weeks for the weight
figures to be reported by
the hazardous waste
firm but two semi-trucks
were filled with
materials that will be
recycled or disposed of
properly.

items. Bring them to Will County's last one-day HHW & Electronic collection event of 2013 in Braidwood.

HHW refers to Household Hazardous Waste and includes:

* Oil-Based Paints and Stains, Spray Paint, Aerosol Paints *
Paint Thinners * Solvents * Drain Cleaners * Old/Unwanted
Medication * Cleaning Products * Rechargeable Batteries,
Automotive/ Boat Batteries * Mercury & mercury items *
Pesticides * Lawn & Garden chemicals and fertilizers * Motor
Old, Used Oil Filters, Old Gasoline, Antifreeze, All Automotive
Fluids * Fluorescent Bulbs, Compact Fluorescent Bulbs (CFLs)
*Small Hand-held Propane Tanks * Pool Chemicals * Driveway
Sealer

Electronic recycling continues to expand and currently includes:

- Printers (laser, ink jet, dot matrix, etc.), Copiers, Faxes, Scanners
- Televisions, VCRs, DVD Players, Laser Disc Players, Blue Rays, Cable and Satellite Receivers, Digital Converter Boxes, Remote Control Devices, Radios, MP3 players, Two-way Radios, Speakers, Stereo Systems
- Telephones, Cell Phones, Pagers, Answering Machines, Handheld Devices (palm organizers, games, joysticks, game control devices)
- Cameras, Video Equipment, Projectors
- Microwaves, Digital Clocks, Coffee Makers (no glass), Blenders (no glass), Bread Makers, Fryers, Food Sealing Equipment, Electric Knives, Massagers, Toaster Ovens
- Hair Dryers, Curling or Straightening Irons, Electric Tooth Brushes, Shaving Equipment
- Vacuum Cleaners (no bags), Carpet Sweepers
- Fans, Heaters, String Lights
- Metal Tools (drills, screwdrivers, saws, sanders, etc.)
- Calculators, Adding Machines, Typewriters, Word Processors, Postage Machines, Paper Shredders

Will County contracts with Vintage Tech Recycling and partners with townships, municipalities and park districts to offer a network of drop-off locations. Vintage Tech also offers free front-door collection services if you have a large item. For details, hours of drop-off locations or arrangements for front-door service, please

The New Lenox Fire Protection District accepted
50 Propane Tanks
25 Fire Extinguishers

Half of a Semi-Load of Foam Plastic (aka Styrofoam) was taken for recycling

Thank you to all that assisted, participated, or simply shared the info!

Save the Date

Sat, Sept. 28
Green Apple
Tibbott School



One-Day Event
Electronic and Textile
Recycling Event
10am - 2pm
Environmental Fair
(15 Vendors)
Noon-2:00pm
520 Gary Drive
Bolingbrook
9:00 - 11:00am

October 9
Walk to School Day

visit <http://www.willcountygarden.com/greenguide/electronic.aspx>



Walk to School Day



October 9, 2013 is International Walk-to-School Day. This event was organized by the **Partnership for a Walkable America** in the USA in 1997 as a one-day event aimed at building awareness for the need for walkable communities. The event focuses on safe walking streets, clean air, healthier habits and community building. In August 2005, federal legislation established the National Safe Routes to School Program that provided \$612 million towards Safe Routes to School from 2005 to 2010. Today, IDOT and other organizations involved in transportation planning try to incorporate walkability into plans and improvements to our existing systems. Walking and biking are part of the Will County Energy Plan, the Forest Preserve's Trail plans and IDOT's state route planning. Consider getting involved with your local school to encourage participation, volunteer as a crossing guard or, if you are a parent, consider walking with your child. If your work place or shopping area is close enough, perhaps you could walk to these destinations for your own health and the environmental benefit!

Vote for the Community Garden project!

The Joliet Park District is in competition for a \$15,000 grant from "Gardens for Good." The money is to be used for an underground well system to provide water to the District's organic community garden on McDonough. They need people to vote online in order to win the funds! Please take a moment to click [here](#) or click the photo and scroll down to the "Vote" button. Click that once a day through September 30 to keep Joliet Park District's 165 plot



**Sat, Oct. 12
HHW &
Electronics
Collection**



One-Day Collection
Household Hazardous
Waste &
Electronics
at Reed-Custer H.S.
249 Comet Drive
Braidwood
Saturday, Oct. 12
8:00am -3:00pm



**November 15
America
Recycles Day**

Join Our Mailing List!



September 2013

garden in the winners circle!

The garden opened in 2012 with much success. 2013 has seen even more people planting and harvesting, exchanging tips and ideas. It is utilized by both Joliet residents and non-residents for a minimal fee and features a chemical free growing environment for people unable to garden at their home.

Start a Compost!

Leaf season is the best time of year to start a backyard compost! It is a tremendous waste of resources to burn leaves and it causes breathing difficulties for people miles from the fire. Rather than accidentally harm anyone's health, consider using those leaves to make a rich fertilizer for your yard or garden.



Composting is a great way to recycle organic waste to produce fertilizer for shrubs, flowers, and vegetables in our gardens. It can be used as mulch, or made into "tea." It improves soil by adding nutrients and improving its ability to hold water.

Leaves are considered a "Brown Material" (scientifically known as a carbon source). When mixed with a "Green Material" (nitrogen), both materials decompose into a nutrient rich soil additive.

For instructions on starting a compost, building an enclosure, purchasing a container or fixing a problem; visit our compost page:

<http://www.willcountygreen.com/greenguide/composting.aspx>

Poster Contest!

Lights for Learning is a program designed to increase energy efficiency in homes. It provides education in classrooms, and a fundraising opportunity to schools through the sale of efficient light bulbs. The program offers both CFLs and LEDs and offers a variety of lights including ones that dim and much more.

They are offering a poster contest open to all children between Kindergarten and 12th grade. Create a poster 11"x14" with the phrases: "Lights for Learning," "Energy Star," and "Do Your Part." Encourage others to help change the world one light-and one energy-saving step-at a time through your illustrations and perhaps you might win a \$100 or \$250 Gift Card. The deadline to enter is Oct. 31. More details are available at <http://www.lights4learning.org/our-contests>



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