



Summertime is full of Easy "Green" Efforts

Kick off the summer with our annual Book Reuse Event! Exchange last year's reading materials for some new books, and while you're at it, consider more you can do to improve our environment. Tired of mowing between the rainstorms, turn some of that lawn into a native garden. Attend a Green Drinks evening event or switch from hazardous chemicals to natural solutions for cleaning and repelling insects! Make "green" choices every summer day!

[Visit Our Website](#)

Book Event starts TODAY

Thousands of books are available FREE of charge at the County's annual Three-Day Book Reuse & Recycling Event. Everyone is invited to bring the books they no longer want, perhaps they are children's books, text books, books you'll simply never re-read or you need the shelf space. Whatever the reason, bring your books to **Pilcher Park in Joliet on May 31, June 1, or 2** and while you're there, pick up some books! Libraries and schools across the County donate books to this effort. **Join us from 9am to 4pm Friday, Saturday or Sunday!** Many school text books are also being given to a community in Africa. Whatever isn't taken, will be recycled.



Encourage Electric Vehicle Use

Electric vehicles or plug-in hybrid vehicles reduce greenhouse gases and improve air quality. Switching from gasoline or diesel is similar to the 1920s switch from horses (that refuel with grass anywhere), to cars (when there were few gas stations to refuel). Today, the vast amount of residents with Electric Vehicles (EVs) rely on charging at home, but they also want to have the opportunity to charge at work or other places where they park for several hours. This gives them confidence to run errands, go out after work, or go further than the charge at home would allow. Employers can help improve the environment by providing Level 2 charging stations or simply allowing employees to plug into existing standard outlets. **In this area, the cost of charging a vehicle using a standard outlet during peak hours would average \$1 a day. This could be one of the most inexpensive ways a business could "green" their employees commute.** Be a Green Business Star and offer an outlet to employees and customers today!



Green Drinks on June 6 - Community Resilience

The June Green Drinks will feature Dr. Bill Stewart from the University of Illinois, presenting highlights of a multi-year study funded by the USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture. The study focused on community resilience in the face of growth and change in Will County. Green Drinks events are free and open to the public. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Green Drinks is sponsored by The Conservation Foundation. Be sure to mark your calendar for Thursday, June 6, 2019 from 6 to 8 pm at Arrowhead Ales Brewing Company, 2101 Calistoga Dr, in New Lenox!



PACE Call-n-Ride now called PACE On-Demand

Pace On Demand offers reservation-based, shared-ride service in 11 designated service areas throughout the suburban region. All you have to do is book online or call to reserve your trip at least one hour in advance, and pay with Ventra (\$2.00 per trip) or cash (\$2.25) when boarding. On Demand is open to the general public, so anyone can book a trip and ride the service, as long as the trip starts and ends within one of the On Demand zones. An online booking feature will come to all On Demand services in 2019! For more info, click [here](#).



Lewis University held a successful Clothing Drive

From March through May, Sustainability Club members at Lewis in Romeoville collected clothing from students and faculty to donate to Morning Star Mission. At least 20 bags, totaling 300 pounds of reusable clothing was gathered and will benefit people in our local area. Please remember that shoes, pants, shirts, jackets and dresses are always accepted by local charities and shouldn't be sent to the landfill when they are no longer wanted.



Shredding Personal Documents

Avoid shredding when possible by ripping personal documents such as bank and credit card paperwork before placing in your recycling cart. Recycling sorting facilities are under surveillance and papers move quickly on conveyors, making theft of identity impossible. (Most identity theft occurs when purchasing items) The papers are washed, removing ink, as part of the recycling process. If you must shred, try to use a public event where the paper will be recycled. If shredding at home, the only way to recycle is to place the shreds in a paper bag, fill halfway, tightly seal and then place in your recycling cart. Never place plastic bags of shreds in the cart. Loose shreds will increase the cost of recycling and eventually be sent to the landfill as unrecoverable.



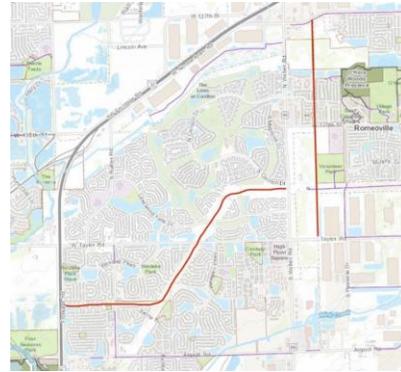
Summer Festival Recycling

Festivals are fun and there are a variety of types offered over the next several months. However, they also generate a lot of waste, especially the food themed fests! The next time you participate in a festival, be sure to look for recycling opportunities. Some organizers are adding food scrap and contaminated paperboard with a goal of ZERO waste. If you can't find recycling collection containers, please tell vendors and festival organizers to add them.



Romeoville Extends Bicycle Trail

The Village is starting construction of a bikeway along a pipeline right of way, just east of Weber Road from Taylor Road north to Normantown Road. Additionally, construction is set to begin on a trail along a portion of ComEd right of way from Weber Road to the east side of I-55. There is a tunnel under I-55 that is expected to be used for a connection. The Village of Romeoville will continue to coordinate with the Plainfield Park District and Village of Plainfield to enhance trail connections. See red lines on the map for reference.



Celebrate with Bubbles - Not Balloons

Balloons become litter when they are released. They wrap around wires, trees, end up in sewers, waterways and fields. As they slowly decay, they are mistaken as food, eaten by birds, fish and animals. They are 42% more likely to kill birds than any other type of plastic. Please consider celebrating a special event with bubbles or in some other way that doesn't harm our environment.



WJOL tours a Recycling Facility

During last month's Textile Recycling Event, WJOL's Scott Slocum and Monica DeSantis asked about touring a local Material Recovery Facility (MRF) and Homewood Disposal gladly offered. Over 600 tons of material flows through this MRF daily, not only handling Homewood Disposal's municipal and commercial recycling accounts, but also some other local company's accounts throughout Will County. Tours are available to groups and organizations. Please click to [learn more](#).



Stop Mowing and Conserve Water

The Conservation Foundation offers residents and businesses an opportunity to reduce the amount of shallow root, fertilizer hungry grass in yards and replace it with deep rooted native plants that prefer the nutrients already present in your soil. Save yourself some time and money while doing something extraordinarily good for the environment. Plant a native area and allow rain water to recharge the aquifer under the ground instead of simply draining away.



Natural Mosquito Repellent

According to the [CDC](#), oil of lemon eucalyptus may be a much safer and more natural weapon to keep mosquitoes from biting. In two recent scientific publications, when oil of lemon eucalyptus was tested against mosquitoes found in the US it provided protection similar to repellents with low concentrations of DEET. Oil of lemon eucalyptus is a plant-based repellent oil made from leaves of *Eucalyptus citriodora*. In addition to repellent, consider light colored clothing, long sleeves and pants as well as citronella candles on decks when gathering outside.



Teaching Gardening Skills

Wood View School in Bolingbrook in partnership with the Will County Master Gardeners planted a beautiful new school garden in May. They are also adding a Little Free Library nearby. Over the summer, as a part of the Master Gardener Learn Grow. Donate Program, the garden will be tended and any produce will be donated to local food pantries. When the students return in August, they will have an opportunity to tend and harvest more.



Be Careful when contacted about Electric and Gas

Have you been solicited by an individual claiming to be a representative of Nicor or ComEd? Nicor and ComEd will never solicit you asking for money wires over the phone or in person and threaten service shut-off if you don't comply. If you see someone on your property claiming to work for Nicor or ComEd, always ask to see their employee ID. Click to [learn more](#).



ReUse: Repair Shoes & Handbags

While the prices of shoes and handbags vary from cheap to costly, when it comes to making them last longer, consider local repair shops. Breaking in new shoes can be painful, but touch-ups and repairs allow you to walk in comfort.



Andy's Shoe Repair

Moody Shoe Repair & Alteration

Dick's Shoe Repair

Myra Shoe Repair & Alterations

Fox Valley Shoe Repair

Naperville Cobbler Shoe Repair

Recycle Glass Bottles not Vases

All curbside programs in Will County accept glass bottles and jars but please keep in mind that doesn't mean all glass is accepted. Never place vases, eyeglasses, ceramic items or glass plates or beverage glasses in the recycling cart. All accepted items may be placed loosely in the cart, avoid bagging items. If you must bag, use paper bags only.



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!

MEMBER
Will County Green Business Program



willcountygreen.com

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

Book ReUse & Recycling Event

FREE
Pilcher Park
Nature Center
Joliet
Friday, Saturday,
Sunday
May 31 - June 2
9am to 4pm

World Environment Day

Global
Wednesday
June 5

Water Conservation is a Grand Slam Event

Tickets \$8 with code
"Water"
Joliet
Sunday
July 21

Will County & City of Joliet offering raffle prizes and water conservation education at the Slammers Game

LOVE Monee Kick-Off 5K & Document Shredding Event

FREE
Monee
Saturday
July 27
10 am to Noon

Kidzfest

Joliet
Saturday
Aug. 3

Really, Really FREE Market

Plainfield United
Methodist Church
Saturday
Aug. 3



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