



## Forget the Heatwave and Embrace the SUN

If you have ever wondered about solar, now is the time to embrace learning, and possibly installing, it! See the Go Solar article! A whopping 40% of food is wasted in the United States, but two high schools are doing their part to address it by composting the leftovers and kitchen scraps. Tired of higher than usual rain events or heatwaves, plant a tree (or a dozen of them) and reap the benefits! Reduce energy use by making your home more efficient and then get outside and enjoy nature without "*being a jerk*"! (See the Forest Preserve's new educational campaign.) Remember, every day is an opportunity to make a positive impact in the world!

[Visit Our Website](#)

---

## Go Solar with Ease (group buying ensures quality)

Have you been considering installing solar on the roof of your home or business but overwhelmed by the many options? Take 90 minutes to attend a FREE seminar offered by the Citizens Utility Board (CUB) and Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA) to learn the basics and also have the opportunity to sign up for a FREE evaluation of your roof. If your roof gets enough sun and is suitable, you will have the ability to join a government sponsored (Will, Kane, DuPage & Cook) buying group to get the best pricing and professional service for solar panels, installation and warranty. Take the guess work out of adding solar, learn more at [Solarize Chicagoland!](#)



---

## Plainfield High School Food Scrap Success

This past school year, two Plainfield District High Schools agreed to pilot a food scrap recycling program with guidance from the County's Environmental Educator. Central and East campuses mobilized their environmental clubs and student body to publicize the new program with catchy videos and morning announcements. The kids collected banana peels, apple cores, and half eaten sandwiches, depositing them in containers marked "Food Waste". All unwanted food was hauled to the Organix compost site where it was turned into a soil amendment that fertilizes plants. **Over 4 tons of food was kept out of the waste stream through this program.** District 202 Plainfield is currently negotiating with Organix Recycling to expand the program to include all four of their high schools. RR&E expects to be on hand to help launch the program this Fall.



---

## Really, Really Free Market

The Plainfield United Methodist Church (PUMC) Green Team, in cooperation with the Village of Plainfield, is offering the sixth FREE MARKET. Unlike a Flea Market where a variety of goods are sold, this market offers all items for FREE. There is no admission fee, and donations are being accepted in advance at these locations:

- \* PUMC, 15114 S. Illinois Street - Mon-Thur 8am-4:30pm
- \* Village Hall, 24401 W. Lockport - Mon-Fri 7:30am-5pm



Items accepted for donation include all types of clothing and shoes in reusable condition, all working small appliances, small working electronic devices (NO Televisions or CRT Monitors), toys, books, home goods, utensils, glassware, lamps, dishes, towels, linens, etc. Everyone is invited to donate and to participate in the FREE Market. Consider it an opportunity to reduce clutter and know that one person's trash is another person's treasure!

---

## Love Monee - 3rd Annual Event

August 3, 2019 Visit Monee for a variety of amazing community events, including a clothing and food giveaway, music festival and much more! [Click for all the info!](#)



---

## August 3 & 4 Tour Green Homes

The Illinois Green Alliance is offering its 7th annual opportunity to tour sustainable, healthy homes in Northern Illinois. With the purchase of a ticket, you can meet the builders, designers, and homeowners behind the green homes, experience the latest sustainable home technologies in action, and learn what you can do in your own home to make it more efficient. [Click to learn more!](#)



## August 12-16 Back-to-School Clothing Donations

From August 12 through August 16 Will County is hosting a collection for gently used and new school clothes. This is the third year the County has partnered with Sharefest to collect clothes that will be distributed throughout the County to needy families at no charge. Children grow fast, often barely wearing some of the shirts, shorts, jeans, jackets, coats, hats or scarves they are provided. The resources used to make these clothes need to be valued. All clothes and shoes in usable condition will be distributed. Backpacks are also accepted. Items will be taken in the lobby of the County Building from 8:30am-4:30pm Monday through Friday.



## Make Your Recyclepalooza Appointments for Sept 14

We are collecting hazardous household products, electronics wood, styrofoam, scrap metal, clothing, home goods, worn American flags, items for animal shelters and for our troops! Take this opportunity to clean out the closet, garage, basement, medicine cabinet and more! This event will be held in New Lenox on Saturday, Sept 14 from 8am-3pm. **Appointments are required!** Over 1,000 homes served each year and the appointment system makes it smooth for all involved. For location information, more details on the list of items accepted, and to make an appointment, please [click here!](#)



## Plant a Tree through the Soil & Water District

Twice a year the Will-South Cook Soil and Water Conservation District, located in New Lenox, hosts a **Tree and Fish sale**. Planting trees and bushes holds in soil, preventing erosion and the plants provide oxygen., actually cleaning the air we breathe! For anyone with a pond on their property, stocking local fish improves the entire ecosystem! Order the plants and fish now and pick



them up this Fall! [Learn more at the Soil & Water Conservation website!](#)

---

## Don't Be a Jerk - A message from the Forest Preserve

The Forest Preserve District of Will County is rolling out a [new multimedia campaign](#) designed to encourage better behavior in the preserves towardst nature and others. This is in response to complaints from the public who don't appreciate preserves filled with litter and dog poop or traveling on a trail with people hogging the whole path or letting their dogs run amok. The campaign is also designed to protect wildlife that can be harmed by improper disposed of cigarette butts, fishing line and other refuse.



---

## Passive House Design - No Furnace!

Can you imagine airtight construction, efficient appliances with no furnace and no carbon footprint? This is being accomplished with extra insulation, highly efficient windows and an "energy recovery ventilator," which continuously pushes stale air out and brings fresh air into the structure. The end result is a comfortable home with good air quality and far lower utility bills than a traditional build. Want to learn more about staying warm in winter and cool in summer without a furnace? Visit [PHIUS](#) (Passive House Alliance - United States) and read an article in the [Chicago Tribune on a home in Chicago](#) built to be certified as PHIUS.



---

## Get Out! Outside, that is.

With the Openlands Get Outside Map, discover places and ways to enjoy nature in the Chicago region. The interactive map and list on the website currently feature 350 parks, preserves, and natural areas open to the public. Each site includes a list of activities, info on available picnic areas, public transit option, a link giving directions utilizing Google Maps, and links to event calendars, as well as other information. Our very own Midewin Tallgrass Prairie is prominently listed, along with many other parks and preserves!



---

## EV Charging at Walmart

Walmart is the largest brick & mortar retailer in the world and has been "greening" its operations for over a decade, reducing energy use in stores and pushing suppliers to use recycled materials in products and packaging. They have partnered with VW to install 120 Electric Vehicle charging stations in 34 states, starting with stores located near major highways. Each group includes at least one Level 3 high-speed charger. They feature different prices for different charging levels and are adding to the EV fueling grid! Walmart, off Jefferson, in Joliet is already open and available!



---

## Unv Park Garden with Sharefest and County

Faith Movers Church, in University Park, believes providing food, water and, even gasoline, to meet the needs of struggling people is God's will. They began one of the County's most successful "We Will Grow" gardens in 2018 and have doubled the size this year. Rev Ben Chambers leads the effort but a group of six dedicated members of the congregation tend the garden beds. Recent drinking water issues lead the church to offer bottled water for more than a month.



---

## Support Dragonflies - they eat mosquitoes!

There are more than 5,000 species of dragonflies and they were one of the earliest insects to evolve. What makes them the most appealing, besides the fact that they do not pose any harm to humans and have amazing flying skills, is the fact that a single dragonfly can eat 30 to hundreds of mosquitoes per day. Rather than spray your yard or body to keep mosquitoes away, try to cultivate a yard that is dragonfly friendly and they will eat those pests!





## WHAT IS A NATIVE BUFFER?



A native buffer is a strip of native vegetation around a stormwater detention pond. Adding a native buffer can enhance the function and appearance of a detention basin.



### 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](http://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

### **CUB & Will County Solar Presentation**

Naperville City Hall  
FREE  
Naperville  
**Thursday  
August 1  
6:30pm - 8pm**

### **Really, Really FREE Market**

Plainfield United  
Methodist Church  
Plainfield  
**Saturday  
August 3  
9am - 3pm**

### **Kidzfest**

Family Event  
FREE  
Joliet  
**Saturday  
August 3**  
*Visit our Booth*

### **Green Build Home Tour**

various locations  
including  
Plainfield  
**Saturday & Sunday  
August 3 & 4  
10am - 4pm**  
*Tickets \$5-\$20*

### **CUB & Will County Solar Presentation**

White Oak Library  
FREE  
Romeoville

### **CUB & Will County Solar Presentation**

Crete Township  
Office  
FREE

### **Back-to-School Clothing Drive**

County Office  
Building  
Joliet

### **CUB & Will County Solar Presentation**

Prairie Activity &  
Rec. Center  
FREE

**Monday  
August 5  
6:30pm - 8pm**

**Crete  
Thursday  
August 8  
2pm - 4pm**

**Monday-Friday  
August 12-16**

**Plainfield  
Monday  
August 19  
6:30pm - 8pm**

**CUB & Will County  
Solar Presentation**

White Oak Library  
FREE  
Lockport  
**Tuesday  
August 20  
6:30pm - 8pm**

**CUB & Will County  
Solar Presentation**

Peotone Public  
Library  
FREE  
Peotone  
**Wednesday  
August 21  
5:30pm - 7pm**

**CUB & Will County  
Solar Presentation**

Mokena Public  
Library  
FREE  
**Mokena  
Monday  
August 26  
6:30pm - 8pm**

**CUB & Will County  
Solar Presentation**

Village of Frankfort  
Hall  
FREE  
Frankfort  
**Wednesday  
August 28  
6pm - 7:30pm**

**CUB & Will County  
Solar Presentation**

offered at  
**GREEN DRINKS**  
Location  
&  
Date  
to-be-announced

**Recyclepalooza**

Appointments  
Required  
FREE  
New Lenox  
**Saturday  
September 14  
8am - 3pm**



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

STAY CONNECTED:



Will County, Land Use Dept, Resource Recovery & Energy,  
58 E. Clinton Street, Joliet, IL 60432

Sent by [mkeane@willcountygreen.com](mailto:mkeane@willcountygreen.com) in collaboration with



Try email marketing for free to