



[Visit Our Website](#)

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

Working and Playing Together

As restrictions designed to protect us from the pandemic are lightened, we are emerging from isolation ready to engage in community acts of environmental preservation. This month's Book Event is a premier example, as the event draws hundreds into close contact but is now requiring masks and social distancing with tables spread further apart, tents and porch areas used to allow reuse shopping experiences to all. Curbside recycling contamination continues to need attention and we ask our subscribers to share their knowledge with friends and family, knowing that recycling correctly saves energy, resources and money! EV Pickups are hitting the streets this year, be prepared to engage in this exciting technology!

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Book ReUse & Recycling Returns!

Will County is proud to announce the return of our annual Book ReUse and Recycling event at its normal scheduled weekend, in its usual location! With over 50% of Illinois adults vaccinated, we were approved to offer this precious three-day book lovers dream event. Residents are welcome to drop-off boxes and take bags of books, appropriate for all ages. We are offering assistance with unloading but encourage everyone to park and visit the tables under the tent, on the outside deck and inside the Nature Center. Participants must wear masks and socially distance to "shop" the event. Hundreds of books are being donated by libraries and schools and any books not taken will be donated or recycled depending on requests from non-profits.



Pilcher Park Nature Center
2501 Highland Park Dr. Joliet
June 4,5,6
Fri, Sat, Sun 9am-4pm

Get Your Hands Dirty for Rewards

The University of Illinois Master Gardeners have been very busy assisting a variety of groups in getting their garden started. What better place to teach than a school? Third graders at Chelsea School Living Learning Lab Pollinator Garden in Frankfort, learned about veggies, planting, sharing, and caring while having fun.



Reap the rewards of growing food and sharing your knowledge. To sign up to learn or to give your gift of gardening know-how, [click here](#).

Food Safety in Warm Weather

While washing hands, defrosting in the fridge, and cleaning veggies are important practices year round, the increase in outdoor eating with friends at home or picnic sites requires a bit more vigilance.

TWO HOUR RULE

- Never leave dips or salads that require refrigeration out over 2 hours.
- This is also true for meat.
- Follow this advice for pasta and rice dishes as well.

Reduce food waste and illness by placing items on ice, and setting an alarm on your phone so you remember to bring them inside. Avoid plastic utensils. Enjoy safely.



Recycling Right Webinar

Many thanks to Resource Management Companies' Greg Maxwell for joining Will County Recycling Program Specialist, Marta Keane, to discuss how contamination to recycling reduces marketability of the very items we can turn into new products. The powerpoint presentation is on our website, along with many other educational presentations from our



Environmental Educator, Joan O'Keefe and Energy Specialist Christina Snitko.

[Click here](#) to see all the selections.

Save Energy - Be Comfortable

ComEd is offering some summer saving tips you won't want to miss. Learn how to cut energy costs and save with this year's Summer Guide.

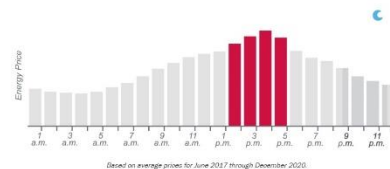
Sign up for Hourly Pricing, get price alerts during times of high demand, run your dishwasher at night and do laundry on the weekends to reduce your costs and demand on the energy grid. [Click for more tips!](#)

OUR TIPS FOR SAVING MONEY THIS SUMMER

This summer may be a hot one, but that doesn't mean you can't take control of your costs with Hourly Pricing. We've put together a few important tips so you can enjoy the warm weather and cool savings this summer.

WHEN TO SHIFT AND SAVE

Increase your savings potential by shifting your energy use away from higher-priced hours. During summer, prices are typically highest on weekdays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. It's as simple as running your dishwasher, using air conditioning, and doing laundry when prices are lower.



World Environmental Day is June 5

This is an invitation to be part of the solution, to reimagine, recreate, and restore. Countries from around the globe participate in this call to grow trees, green our cities, rewild our gardens, change our diets and clean up rivers and coastlines. With the hashtag, [#GenerationRestoration](#) be sure to tag your efforts on social media.



Electric Pick-Up Trucks are arriving

You may have heard about the Tesla innovative design or the Rivian being built in Bloomington last year. Perhaps you recently heard about the Ford Pickup and are getting curious. There are far more on the horizon. Electric pickup trucks offer high towing values, solid payload ratings, as well as versatility and then some as compared to traditional pickup trucks. [Click to preview!](#)



State HHW Event in Aurora 6/5

[Register now](#) for this Saturday, June 5 event in Aurora offered by the Illinois EPA, This Household Hazardous Waste Collection accepts oil-based paints, pesticides, pool chemicals, fertilizers, all types of automotive fluids, including the oil filter. Batteries that are rechargeable, mercury containing items and more. This event runs 8am to 3pm and is open to all Illinois residents. [Registration is required.](#)



When to Water Lawn & Garden

If you are a morning person, this is great news, the best time to water you lawn and garden is before 9am so the plants have a chance to absorb the moisture. If you prefer to water in the evening, consider getting a sprinkler or irrigation system with a timer so you can sleep or work early and still water at the best time. Midday watering evaporates too quickly and evening watering can lead to plant disease if too much is given. Also, try to avoid watering when it rains, that is just a waste. Add a rain barrel where possible.



Buy Recycled Content Items

Staff recently spotted a combo backpack, cooler at the local Sam's Club. The prominent recycled content label captured their attention. Made with up to 19 plastic bottles, this product supports recycling by replacing polyester with captured from curbside bottles. This [Igloo REPREVE™ softside cooler bags](#) comes in several colors. On their website, they show a variety of styles from a lunch bag to a backpack, so if you find yourself in need of such an item, know you can purchase a fine quality one with recycled content.



Facebook Fan Question about Hangers

Return the thin metal ones to a dry cleaner, donate the plastic and metal/plastic combo hangers to thrift stores. Ask your retailer of choice if they reuse or recycle them. If they are plastic and broken, no longer reusable, please know that they need to be placed in the garbage. NEVER place in the recycling. Metal ones in poor condition will be taken at most scrap collections.



Upcoming Events

June 4,5,6: Book Reuse Event (COVID precautions in place)

June 5: World Environmental Day

June 5: Illinois EPA sponsored HHW Event in Aurora

July 31: Love Monee Document Shredding

Sept 11: Recyclepalooza in New Lenox

Sept 25: Electronics and Household Hazardous Waste Event in Homer Glen

Nov 6: Triple Dipper: Pumpkin Pitch with Document Shredding and Electronics at Lewis University in Romeoville

Nov 15: America Recycles Day



Water Conservation



Search for recycling and disposal options on willcountygreen.com



Geothermal Energy



Green Business Star



School Earth Flag

Take a Virtual Tour



Solar Energy



Info on Electric Vehicles



Wind Energy



Electronics Drop-Off



Household Hazardous
Waste Drop-Offs



Medication Take-Back

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Will County



Resource Recovery
& Energy
*A Division of the
Will County Land Use
Department*

