

# **Environmental Opportunities All Around**

Living in Will County is like finding a four leaf clover on St. Patrick's Day if you're interested in improving our environment. March, April and May are packed with opportunities to recycle, make your home safer, volunteer in the community or start a garden in your own backyard. Kick back and read the upcoming offerings and may your day be ever greener!

**Visit Our Website** 

### Make an Appointment for an Electronic and HHW Event

March 24 is the first Collection Event of 2018. We are utilizing our brand new appointment system and asking everyone that wishes to drop off items, to reserve an appointment time. One appointment per vehicle using a valid Here is telephone number. our event email and Peotone on Saturday. March 24 Saturday. Joliet on April



Mokena on Saturday, June 23 (will activate soon) (Click the hotlink to make an appointment)

## March 24 - one hour - 8:30-9:30pm

Earth Hour is now the world's largest grassroots movement for the environment, inspiring millions of people to take action for our planet and nature. While it begins with you turning out your lights to appreciate the energy we use, it symbolizes awakening awareness of all the resources we take for granted and working together to improve through conservation along with clean energy production!



#### Children are our Future

Plainfield East High School is recycling Chip Bags! Terracycle works with schools across the nation to recover and recycle some out-of-the-ordinary items, including Chip Bags. Plainfield East students decided to make a video about the proper way to recycle these items and are open to sharing it! Click the photo to check it out!



#### **Need a Movie Recommendation?**

One Earth Film Festival takes place each March in select theatres in the Chicagoland area! Each movie event offers audience members a chance to participate in discussions after the environmental movie ends to find solutions to the issues presented. Just because you may not make it to these



showings, doesn't mean you can't participate at home. Consider renting some of the movies that have been shown and forming your own discussion group with family or friends! Click the image to see recommendations!

#### **Veteran Garden Grant Available**

The Office of the Will County Executive, Will County Land Use Department and the Joliet Park District are offering FREE 10 ft X 10 ft Garden Plots to Will County Veterans!

**Applications are due May 1!** There are 35 plots available.

- No Joliet Residency Requirement
- Water available to each site
- Will County will supply plants and items needed to maintain plots when purchased through partner vendors
- All purchases must be approved.
- Rototilling services are available for fee



### **Donate Cabinets to Joliet ReStore**

Are you remodeling your kitchen? Consider donating the old cabinets to Joliet's Habitat for Humanity ReStore. This retailer offers plenty of home remodeling and furnishing options. Some brand new items from manufacturer overproduction are available along with gently used items. Save money when redecorating or when assisting a young adult with a college apartment or first home.



# **Solar Farms & Solar Roof Tops**

Do you own some vacant land or a roof top? Consider putting solar on it! Instead of making all the investment yourself, consider leasing the property to a solar developer. A solar installer builds the array and connects it to the electric power grid. The developer owns and operates the infrastructure. The power the sun and panels generate is measured and valued. The value is proportionally distributed to you and the developer and any other investors. B



proportionally distributed to you and the developer and any other investors. Be sure to follow all local regulations. Learn more at the <u>Illinois Solar Energy Association</u>.

## **Spring Rain - Keep Drains Open**

Over the winter, snow can hide litter but at this time of year, spring rains can wash it into storm drains and block them. This can lead to flooding. Be sure to grab a garbage bag and clean yours out. It is a safety and neighborly thing to do; as well as environmental because those storm drains lead directly to creeks, streams and rivers.



## Green Drinks - April 10 - 6pm

Here is a chance to gather with others for a virtual tour of the early season prairies and neighborhoods in Northeast Illinois. The focus will be on native bees and other pollinators, the plants they use, and what to expect. Discussion will include how you can help provide high quality habitat in your area. The presentation is free, food and beverages are available for purchase. The event will be at Aurelio's Pizza in Plainfield.



# **Volunteer for Clean Ups**

Two Hours - Twice a Year is the motto for the <u>Helpers of Mother Earth</u> which organizes or participates in cleanups around the County. Consider getting involved to earn community service hours for school, make new friends or simply to improve the environment!



## Reminder: Recycle Plastic Bottles with the Cap ON!

A few years ago the industry changed its messaging from keeping caps off to asking everyone to recycle plastic bottles with the cap on. This is because the recycling industry is always improving, investing in new equipment

and technology to improve recovery. While it remains true that some caps are a different type of plastic than their bottle, they can be collected and sorted, then recovered and recycled more easily today than a decade ago!



#### **Click for more information:**

Battery Recycling

<u>Latex Paint</u>

<u>Textiles</u>

Book Reuse
Medication

**Thermostats** 

CFL Recycling
Plastic Bags/Film

<u>Traditional Drop-Offs</u>

Electronics
Styrofoam
Tire Recycling



Play a fun game!



**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**

**Electronics &** Household **Hazardous Waste Collection** Peotone Saturday March 24 10am - 3pm **By Appointment** 

**Only** 

Earth Hour Worldwide **Saturday** March 24 8:30pm-9:30pm

**Severe Weather Spotter Training** & Health & **Safety Expo** New Lenox **Thursday** April 19 5pm-7pm Expo 7-8:30pm **Training** 

**Frankfort Park District Earth Fair** Frankfort **Saturday** April 21 8:30 - 11:30am

**Electronics &** Household **Hazardous Waste** Collection Joliet Saturday April 21 10am - 3pm

**Earth Day** Nationwide Sunday April 22

**National DEA** Medication Take-Back Various Saturday April 28 10am-2pm

**Textile Collection** Week (Clothing/Shoes) County Office Building Joliet **Monday-Friday** April 30-May 4 8:30am-4:30pm

#### **Bluestem Earth Festival**

**By Appointment** 

**Only** 

University of St. Francis Joliet Saturday **May 19** 10am - 3pm

### **Bringing Nature Home Native Plant Sale**

(Benefits the Forest Preserve) Sugar Creek Admin Joliet **Saturday May 19** 9am - 2pm

# **Shredding Event**

Fountaindale **Public Library** Bolingbrook **Saturday May 19** 11am-3pm

**Book Reuse &** Recycling Weekend Pilcher Park Nature Center Joliet

Fri, Sat, Sun June 1, 2, 3 9am - 4pm

Will County | Land Use | Resource Recovery & Energy 815-727-8834 | info@willcountygreen.com |

STAY CONNECTED:







