

Visit Our Website

Make Every Day Earth Day - "Green" Your Choices - Save Resources - Be Happy

Color Your Fall Green

With the Fall season nearly upon us, this is an excellent time to clean out clutter. Make your home safer by making an appointment for one of our upcoming collection events. It is also an excellent time to start a compost in your back yard and remember to leave some leaf debris for pollinators to shelter in through the winter. Adjust the thermostat to save energy when you pull out the sweaters, pullovers, and throw blankets for the sofa.

Visit Our Website

Electronics and HHW Events

Make your appointment today to participate in our Homer Glen or Monee Collection Events for Electronics and Household Hazardous Waste (HHW). These FREE events are designed to make communities safer, decreasing the chance of fires or toxic exposure from unwanted everyday items.

For the event to run smoothly, please pack vehicles so electronics will be taken out first and hazardous items taken second.

These events are offered for residential materials only (no business waste):

Electronics - all sizes of TVs (limit 2 per vehicle), computers, monitors, mice, keyboards, game devices, satellite dishes, CDs, DVDs, Zip Drives, UPS devices, Printers, CD/DVD players, Boomboxes, Radios, Digital Clocks, Microwaves, Cameras, String Lights, Scanners, Calculators, Telephones/Cell Phones, Power Tools, Hair Dryers, Digital Photo Frames and much more.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) - all Automotive Fluids, Mercury and mercury containing items, all types of Paint (limit 15 gallons), Pool Chemicals, Cleaners, all sizes of Fluorescent Lights (limit 15), Rechargeable Batteries, Pesticides, Fertilizers, and hand held Gas Cylinders.

Please click the event town to make an appointment.



Electronics & HHW Events

Saturday, Sept 27, 2025 8am - 2pm Homer Glen

Saturday, Oct 4, 2025 8am - 2pm Monee

Please do NOT bring
VHS or Cassette Tapes
Wooden Speakers
Appliances
Dehumidifiers
Cylinders (except
small handheld propane)
Single-Use Batteries

Campaign to Improve Recycling

Will County is part of a competitive grant from the US EPA designed to improve recycling in three ways:

- 1. Increase understanding
- 2. Increase participation
- 3. Increase the use of recycled content products

As part of the sub-award for use by Will County we have undertaken a multi-faceted campaign to improve plastic container recycling. Titled "Caps On" this campaign is designed to increase the understanding of what plastics are accepted in curbside and Traditional Drop-Off collections.

Empty **Bottles, Tubs, and Jugs** with caps or lids affixed should be recycled. Will County has developed a <u>website page</u> on this subject to improve understanding. Common questions, such as the resin numbers and why the emphasis on caps, are addressed on this page.

Please learn more, tell friends and family. We recognize that many people are concerned if plastic recycling is really working and are actively seeking to provide information on which items are desired and easily made into new plastic products.



New "Caps On" Education Campaign

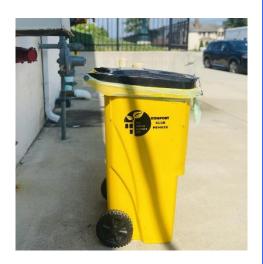
Launched in August, this campaign has already reached over 25,000 viewers, generating questions and excitement. Please share widely!

Lockport Composts Food Scraps

Lockport has announced a partnership with Urban Canopy to make food scrap composting easier and more accessible for the entire Lockport community. The city has located a bright yellow compost cart behind City Hall on 8th Street. This cart is free and open to the public to use. Residents are invited to bring food scrap items anytime:

- Seeds/Pits
- Husks/Shells
- Peels
- Bread & baked goods
- Coffee & paper coffee filters
- Tea & paper tea bags (No STAPLES)
- Dairy
- Meats
- Bones leftover from cooking
- Eggs & egg shells
- Cooked/frozen food

For those Lockport residents interested in taking your composting to the next level; join the Compost Club and have a bin at



Lockport Food Scrap Drop-Off

City Hall 222 E 9th Street Lockport, IL 60441

Cart is located behind City Hall

The City of Naperville has piloted a public Compost Drop Off for a few months in 2024 and 2025.

The Will County Solid Waste Plan encourages more food scrap composting.

your home for a low monthly price. For more information, visit the <u>city webpage</u>.

\$7,500 Rebate on Electric Vehicles

If you have been toying with the idea of purchasing an electric car or plug-in hybrid, please be aware that the \$7,500 tax credit, that was supposed to be available through 2032 will expire on Sept. 30, 2025. This change occurred with the passage of the federal budget reconciliation bill. The good news is that buyers may claim the tax credit on eligible vehicles as long as they enter into a binding contract to purchase it and make a payment (including a trade-in or even a small down payment) before Sept. 30, 2025, according to new guidance from the IRS.

Want to learn more about EVs and Plug-In Hybrids, be sure to stop in JJC 's EV Drive event on September 20. A joint effort of the college automotive service technology program and Office of Sustainability, being held from 10am to 3pm at JJC Main Campus. Vehicles from different dealerships will be on display in the auto-bay or to test drive, a "Pro Driver" demonstration course, presentations on EVs, Sustainability/EV vendor tables, and a food truck to keep you fueled for all the fun. The event will be held inside and outside of the Automotive



Stop into your local car dealership or visit JJC on

Saturday, Sept 20

10am - 3pm

1215 Houbolt Road

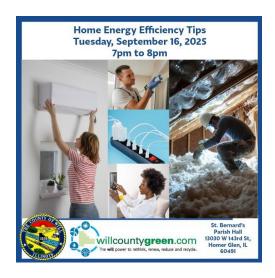
Joliet

Services shop (Building C), parking lots S6 and S5.

Presentation on Energy Efficiency

Will County's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Specialist, Briana Moore, will be offering a presentation that is open to the public in Homer Glen on Tuesday evening, September 16. This presentation is on the many ways residents may lower utility bills, make homes more comfortable, and care for the environment through reduced pollution. Residents can take energy efficiency steps to reduce energy waste.

This presentation is being done in partnership with the Caring for Creation Committee (CCC) of St. Bernard's Parish. At a time of increasing utility costs, Will County will present some strategies and resources you can use to improve your home's efficiency beyond turning off lights and keeping the front door closed.



Tuesday, September 16, 2025
7 pm – 8 pm
St. Bernard's Parish Hall
13030 W 143rd St,
Homer Glen, IL 60491

Winning Night at Water Event

Baseball fans won big at Water Conservation Night with the Joliet Slammers, hosted in partnership with the City of Joliet on August 26, 2025. Attendees played games, won prizes, and learned all kinds of easy tips to save water, such as testing toilets for leaks and turning off the tap while brushing teeth at various tables staffed by community organizations.

A total of 121 people submitted water conservation pledges online, by mail, at local community events, and at the baseball game itself, potentially saving thousands of gallons of water each year per home. A handful of randomly selected participants also won rain barrels and water conservation kits with low-flow shower heads, faucet aerators, water hose faucet timers, create-your-own rain barrel packs, and toilet leak detector dye. Not only was the weather perfect, but the Joliet Slammers also won against the Washington Wild Things 7–6.



Thank you to our partners!

City of Joliet, Grand Prairie Water Commission, Home Depot, Illinois Section of the American Water Works Association, Joliet Junior College, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, The Conservation Foundation, University of Illinois Extension.

Homer Township Battery Collection

Homer Township has become the newest partner in the Will County Rechargeable Battery Collection program. Just inside the lobby, residents may bring their taped batteries to be recycled. Currently all the Will County partners only accept lithium and rechargeable batteries. In January the new Battery Stewardship Act will expand the program to include all handheld batteries with funding from manufactures.

Be sure to be safe when handling batteries. When they no longer hold a charge, store them with tape on the end to provent them from overheating if they touch. Do not place rechargeable batteries in the recycling or in the garbage. They are considered hazardous.



Click to learn more!

IL Extension Fall Gardening Tips

Fall is an important time in landscape care according to Nancy Kuhajda, University of Illinois Extension Horticulture Educator. This is the best time to plant trees, shrubs and perennials. Many don't realize that the roots of perennial plants continue to grow even after the leaves have fallen. The roots will continue to grow and take in moisture and nutrients until the ground freezes solid. The important thing is choosing the right plant for the right site and then continued aftercare



post planting. Illinois Extension offers an easy to use Fall Garden Checklist.

As the garden season winds down, one of the best practices for the home gardener is to clean, sharpen, and properly saw their garden tools so they are ready to go for the next season.

Leaving tools full of soil and moisture is a sure way to decrease their usefulness. Save money and time by cleaning and storing the tools using the Illinois

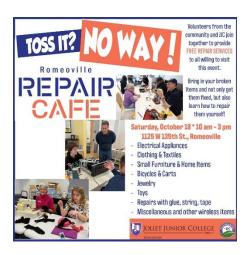
Extension Garden Tool Guide.

For any gardening or nature questions, contact Nancy at **kuhajda@illinois.edu** or call the Will County Extension Office at 815-727-9296.

Volunteer for JJC's Repair Cafe

Joliet Junior College is offering a Fall Repair Cafe on Oct 18 and hoping the community will provide volunteer support. If you know how to fix jewelry, furniture, toys, electronic devices, lamps, bicycles, clothing, or other home items, please consider sharing those skills.

This program is also seeking local business and community sponsors. The art of repair was common prior to the 1960s but fast fashion and mass production has increased the amount of materials sent to the landfill. The Office



Volunteer today by contacting the Office of Sustainability by email <u>Ashley.klinder@jjc.edu</u> or call of Sustainability brings people of all ages and skills together to reduce waste. If your business or community group is interested in sponsoring, please contact Ashley or Maria at JJC.

815-280-2644 for more information.

If you have a throw pillow, toy, or broken piece of furniture, mark your calendar and bring the items to the Romeovile Campus next month. Turn your trash back to treasure with a bit of help.

Sign Up for the Earth Flag Program

Since 1998 Will County has offered a School Earth Flag in recognition of environmental actions and education done in schools. The program is open to both public and private schools serving Will County students K-12. Nearly 50 schools each year are recognized.

There are a variety of environmental topics covered, based on the teacher preference and Illinois Learning Standards. Students and faculty find the presentations engaging. For more information and to sign up to become part of Will County's Earth Flag program, please click this link.



Open to all schools serving Will County students.

Upcoming Events

Sept 13: Recyclepalooza & HHW in New Lenox

Sept 16: Presentation on Home Energy Efficiency in Homer Glen

Sept 18: Environmental Theme Movie in Bolingbrook

Sept 20: Learn about Electric Powered Vehicles at JJC

Sept 27: Electronics and Household Hazardous Waste in Homer Glen

Oct 4: Electronics and Household Hazardous Waste in Monee

Oct 18: Electronics and Small Scrap Metal Collection in Shorewood

Oct 18: Repair Cafe in Romeoville

Oct 24: Textile Collection in Joliet

Nov 1: Triple Play: Pumpkin for Compost, Electronics, Shredding in Romeoville



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



Cleaning Alternatives



Donate Items



Composting







C-PACE Program

Reporting Data

Sustainable Infrastructure







Electronics Drop-Off

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Offs

Medication Take-Back

WillCountyGreen.com

A website of Will County 58 E. Clinton Street Joliet, IL 60432 815-727-8834

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

