

- Highlights**
- [Natural Gas Trucks](#)
 - [FREE for Everyone!](#)
 - [Book Reuse Grows](#)
 - [Clothing Reuse Rises](#)
 - [Sunny Hill Dashboard](#)
 - [Partnering for Progress](#)
 - [Bill becomes Law](#)
 - [Save a bit on the AC](#)

Spotlight on Plastic Wrap



Spread the word, you can recycle more than those plastic grocery bags at the local grocery store! Take the dry cleaning and clothing bags. Take the plastic bags the produce was weighed and carried in! Take the wrap that held the toilet paper together; the

Green Home Tour!

See some innovations and learn ways to save serious energy in your home at the annual Chicagoland Green Home Tour. Will County actually has a home in the show that can be toured for \$5, but don't stop there, for \$20 you can spend Saturday and Sunday touring as many of the homes as you wish! Click the photo for a link to learn more!



New CNG Facility!

Waste Management just invested \$2 million in Will County, opening a brand new Compressed Natural Gas Fueling Facility in Rockdale! It is currently fueling 24 CNG collection vehicles at its 50 fueling bays. More trucks are expected to be added within the year! The vehicles fuel overnight and run for 10-12 hours on 50 gallons of fuel. CNG fuel runs more quietly than diesel and prevents air pollution. Because natural gas is domestically available and runs more cleanly than oil, these types of facilities are encouraged in the Will County Energy & Conservation Plan.



Really, Really FREE Market - August 1!

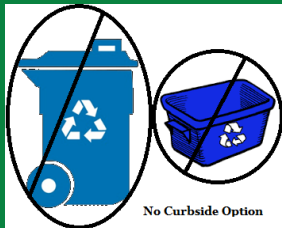
Saturday, August 1, 2015
10:00am-3:00pm
Plainfield United Methodist Church



bread bags, the sandwich bags, the newspaper sleeves and so much more!

As you pack up all these plastic films (and it really does add up), just remember, they can NOT be put in the recycle bin. They will become contaminated and entangled in the sorting equipment. All bags and plastic film need to be taken to a retailer that accepts bags:

- Berkots
- Best Buy
- Caputo's Fresh Market
- Food 4 Less
- Home Depot
- Jewel
- Kmart
- Lowe's
- Mariano's
- Meijer
- Target
- Tony's Finer Foods
- Walmart



Plastic bags and film are usually made into plastic lumber, which can be used for park benches, decking and outdoor chairs. These recycled content plastic items replace wood, and offer many advantages. They do not need stained or

15114 S. Illinois Street
Plainfield, IL 60544

The Plainfield United Methodist Church Green Team, in cooperation with the Friendship Baptist Church, the Village of Plainfield and Will County is offering their second 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 three locations:

PUMC, 15114 S. Illinois Street - Mon-Thur 8am-4:30pm
Friendship Baptist, 15801 S. Rt 59 - Mon-Thur 9am-5pm
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, electronic devices, 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!

The Book Market!

Located in Crest Hill, along Rt. 30 at 2365 Plainfield Road, the Book Market is home to thousands of books, of every genre. Originally



opened in Joliet in 1977, the store moved to Crest Hill eight years ago and recently relocated, literally across the street. The new location is energy efficient, double the capacity and is fully owned by the Book Market. They have made shopping for gently used books more enjoyable while also keeping their cozy niche in the neighborhood. Located near, but unaffiliated with, Once Upon a Child and Plato's Closet, both gently used clothing stores, the Book Market offers avid readers and those searching for lower impact goods, a wide selection of 250,000 books!

painted. Graffiti washes off easily. They are resistant to sun and water damage without toxic additives. They are very durable, expected to last 50 years or more!

Drop-Off Sites Available Weekly

(click to see locations and hours of operation)

[Battery Recycling](#)

[CFL Recycling](#)

[Electronic Device Recycling](#)

[Latex Paint Recycling Retailers](#)

[Medication Take-Back](#)

[Textile Donation or Drop-Off Sites](#)

[Traditional Recycling Drop-Off Sites](#)

(Bottles, Cans, Paper, Cardboard)

[Tire Recycling Retailers](#)

Seasonal Fresh Option

Clothes Mentor ReUse!

If you have some suits, dresses, or other clothes and shoes in good condition that you no longer wish to wear, consider selling them! Clothes Mentor, located in Crest Hill, pays for items they believe will be resold - purses, shoes, coats, shirts, blazers, and more! They prefer items that are less than 2 years old, in good condition and freshly laundered.



Regardless of your interest in selling, you can go shopping for all these items and save money while keeping materials out of landfills. Designer items for 80% off mean savings for you, a job for someone, some funds for the person that turned in the item, a lot of pollution prevented and water saved! (It takes approximately 1,800 gallons of water to grow enough cotton to produce just one pair jeans.)

Energy Dashboard at Sunny Hill!

Will County's Sunny Hill Nursing Home uses a lot of energy as a year round residency for 238 of our precious elderly citizens. As such, the County has focused on decreasing costs through energy efficiency improvements for many years. The latest is a new building operating system. This system features a "dashboard" that allows monitoring of different utilities within the facility for easier and faster problem solving.



A grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity funded the Lucid Technologies Operating System. The building's system will be featured on a 42" touch screen monitor that has a series of informational options: An opening page that gives a description of the care facility, a page featuring interval electric and natural gas usage, a page listing the building's green features, and a page of green tips for home and work. The "dashboard" is expected to be running by the end of this month and will serve as a pilot project. If this tool engages the staff and residents as

[Area Farmer's Markets](#)

Mark Your Calendar

Presentations
**Farmer's Market
Fridays 8am-2pm
Joliet**

**August 1
Really, Really Free
Market
Plainfield**

**September 12
Sharefest Collection
8am-3pm**

New Lenox

**September 19
Sharefest Give-
Away**

9am-3pm

New Lenox

**More Events
to-be-announced**

Join Our Mailing List!



envisioned, Will County will investigate the feasibility of installing building operating systems in other high energy use facilities.

Partnering for Progress!

Will County has been working on a "Brownfield Redevelopment Opportunity" at the famous Joliet Prison property. Since the fall of 2014, Will County has partnered with the Illinois EPA's Technical Brownfields Assistance (TBA) program to provide Phase I and II Site Assessments, free of charge, to the local task force on the 190-acre Joliet Correctional Prison (operating from 1858 to 2002). The prison was the setting for such films and TV shows as the Blues Brothers and Prison Break. Through the partnership, Will County has been able to provide the task force with multiple environmental assessments leading to the identification of impacts and remedial actions needed as the group considers options that include a community park, recreational fields, green space and/or a walking tour area.



Electronics HB1455 becomes PA99-0013!

As of Friday, July 10, the electronics short-term fix bill, (known as House Bill 1455, passed unanimously by both the Illinois House and Senate, thanks to strong leadership from Representative Emily McAsey), became a new Illinois law, known as Public Act 99-0013! This law became effective immediately upon the Governor's signature. It added 10 million more pounds of residential electronic recycling to manufacturer's goals and allowed CRT glass to be treated and stored in a retrievable storage cell within Illinois, lowering the cost and questions raised by shipping it out of the country. The law is expected to keep programs across Illinois viable until a permanent approach can be reached between industry and government. Will County is proud to have been able to work with Vintage Tech Recyclers to keep our electronic recycling programs available to residents throughout the past year of diminished goals, bankruptcies and closures that impacted communities throughout the state.





July

2015

Quick Tip!

Consider signing up for ComEd's Central AC Cycling Program. By enrolling you can earn credits on your electricity bill. Once enrolled, ComEd will install a special switch on your central air conditioning unit that allows it to cycle your compressor off and on to conserve energy during summer days of high demand for electricity. Depending upon which option you choose, you can earn a total annual credit of either \$20 or \$40 by giving up a few degrees of cooling during a limited number of summer weekdays. Many participants report the difference in cooling is not even noticed.



June set record for Rain!

If you have been thinking that we are getting above average rain, you are correct! According to the Illinois State Climatologist, Jim Angel, the month of June, 2015 set a new state record (and records go back as far as 1895). We received nearly 9 inches of rain. Furthermore, Angel noted that four of the five wettest Junes in the state history have happened since 1998. July seems to be continuing the trend!



See more photos from events and learn more about area "green" efforts by becoming a fan of our [Facebook Page](#)