

## Featured Recyclable



### Gifts Waste Reduction ReUse Recycling

If you having already stated, you soon will be purchasing gifts for friends, family, co-workers, teachers, mail delivery personnel and bus drivers. The list can be quite long and often the gifts can lose their meaning in the rush to get them delivered on time. For this holiday season, consider giving something that those you care about will remember. Perhaps a neighbor could use a night of free babysitting or some help fixing something. The gift of time is priceless.

## Illinois Governor's



## Sustainability Award

On November 9, Will County was given the Illinois Governor's Sustainability Award for the County's numerous efforts to improve recycling, conserve open space, reduce energy consumption and educate both the business community and school students on the importance of making "green" choices. This award is the highest recognition a business or governmental organization can receive in Illinois. Established in 1987 as the Pollution Prevention Award, it now encompasses far more environmental efforts. Will County's website, green roof, landfill-gas-to-energy facility, conservation subdivision ordinance and household hazardous waste collection programs were all part of the recognition.

## Expanded Electronic Recycling

### *Will County Partners offer 13 Drop-Off Sites*

As of January 1, 2012 there were 17 different electronic devices banned from disposal in Illinois. All of them and more are accepted in the Will County recycling program with host communities:



- Village of Bolingbrook
- Channahon Township
- Forest Preserve District of Will County - Laraway in Joliet
- Forest Preserve District of Will County - Monee Reservoir
- Godley Park District
- Village of Homer Glen/Homer Township
- City of Lockport

If that isn't possible, gift cards are low impact since they come in recyclable wrapping, usually get used to purchase an item truly needed and are easy to mail! If you know the person well, you may know which store to purchase the card from but it not, mall cards, restaurant cards and stores catering to their occupation are often appreciated.

Of course children love to open toys and you may have already gotten a unique item that needs wrapped. In this case, consider a reusable bag that can be used for shopping year round. They make an extra gift as a special wrapping. There are also gift boxes that come pre-decorated. These are used in movies and TV shows, where beautiful ribbons are not cut or paper ripped, the lovely box just opens. That box can be reused for years and always looks terrific.



When the holiday ends, be sure to recycle unwanted cards, torn wrapping paper and any

- Manhattan Township
- Village of Mokena
- New Lenox Township
- Village of Romeoville
- Troy Township Highway Department
- Washington Township/Village of Beecher

String lights, microwaves, cameras, calculators were always accepted but as of November, the list has expanded to include:

- Toaster Ovens
- Coffee Makers (no glass pots)
- Blenders (bases only, no glass)
- Bread Makers
- Deep Fryers
- Food Sealing Equipment
- Electric Knives
- Shaving Equipment
- Curling Irons
- Hair Dryers
- Electric Tooth Brushes
- Vacuum Cleaners (no bags)
- Carpet Sweepers
- Fans & Space Heaters
- Metal Tools (power tools, drills, screwdrivers, hammers, saws, sanders, wrenches, pliers, clamps, wire cutters, etc.)



## Solar Powered Bus Shelter

Mass transit is already well known for cutting air pollution by lowering the number of vehicles on the road. Some are running on biodiesel fuel, which burns more cleanly than diesel, further reducing green house gases. In 2014 PACE will be purchasing Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses to further reduce emissions. However, the latest improvement by PACE, introduced first in Will County, are shelters powered by solar. This allows lights to be powered by the sun, addressing safety and environmental issues. The one in the photo is in Plainfield and there are more throughout the county, with additional solar installations scheduled beyond our borders!



## America Recycles Day - Free Laptop

packaging that is accepted.

Other recyclable items generated at the holidays include:  
Aluminum Foil (rinse off food)  
Boxes (flatten)  
Bubble and Plastic Bags can be taken to plastic bag collection boxes in retail stores

Join Our Mailing List!



November 2012

In honor of America Recycles Day, Vintage Tech Recyclers has offered a refurbished laptop computer (with one year warranty) to give away to someone that posts a photo of themselves recycling. Post the photo on the WJOL Facebook Page to enter the contest by November 29. On Friday, November 30, WJOL AM1340's very own Scott Slocum will announce the winner on the morning show!



[Click to Link](#)

## View Our Green Blogs

Over a year ago the New Lenox Patch offered Will County the opportunity to blog on "green" topics in their on-line publication. Over fifty blogs have been written on a variety of topics from recycling to energy efficiency, historic preservation to tankless water heaters. Each blog is short and to the point, allowing comments, with answers to the occasional questions. Some other community Patch publications have featured some of the blogs as they are County focused. Check them out when you have the chance.

# NewLenoxPatch

## Shop Local - Sat, Nov. 24

As shopping begins, remember to visit local stores for many of your purchases. Shopping locally uses less fuel, builds a healthy economy, aids in providing work opportunities for people in the area while enhancing a strong sense of community. Shop with friends, neighbors and relatives for social and environmental rewards. Remember that every \$1 spent locally equals \$1.65 to the local economy as businesses employ local residents who also spend money locally!



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