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Enter our Contest with a photo!



Individuals: All you need for a chance to win is a photo! Will County encourages all residents, and those working within the County, to send us their photos as they engage in a "green" activity. It may be a photo of you putting out your curbside

ENERGY SUMMIT for School Teachers, Administrators and Facility Managers!

With budgets shrinking and utility costs rising, Will County is reaching out to our schools, to offer tips and maintenance investment opportunities to lower costs!



The energy summit will offer speakers with experience to inspire and inform! Raffle prizes, pizza and more!

Tuesday, October 20, 6pm - 8pm in Homer Glen

"Hands on Energy" Lesson Plans from:

Laura DiMartino, Joliet Dist 86

Dave Mertes, Valley View Dist 365 U

Tim Fogt, Valley View Dist 365 U

Lockport High becomes an Energy Star School

Technologies & Forecasts from Mr. Wengel, Shedd Aquarium

Trees & Shrubs for Efficiency

JJC's Geothermal Install

Free School Energy Assessments

Boiler Updates and Lighting Efficiencies

ENERGY - Track It, Manage It, Save It

Grants & More Vendor Info

Only \$10! Register at www.pdaonline.org Click [here](#) to see informational flyers on our event page!

recycling, harvesting the garden, installing a rain barrel or using a compost. The photo must show the person and the "green" activity to qualify.

Non-Profits: Do you need an iPad to take photos, video or show off your accomplishments? Could your staff use it to track energy or remotely work?

Will County encourages you to complete our application, [found on our website](#), and return it by November 15, 2015. The entries will be scored and up to three organizations will be selected as being both "green" and able to utilize the iPad2 device best!

While we realize that not every non-profit may need an iPad to assist them in their mission, they may find it useful in other ways. Regardless, we will recognize everyone that applies on our website. In addition, if they have some great "green" practices to share, we will profile them in an issue of this newsletter.

Share this opportunity with non-profits you like and



HHW & Electronics Collection in Wilmington on Oct. 24!

Saturday October 24 - 8am to 3pm
Wilmington City Hall (parking lot)
1165 S. Water Street
Wilmington, IL 60481

As you close up the house for winter, check the furnace and clean the vents, be sure to remove the hazardous chemicals! While you're at it, take this opportunity to recycle any obsolete or unwanted electronic devices! For a full list of all the items accepted at this event, please visit our [event page](#)!

Pumpkin Pitch 2015!

Friday & Saturday
November 6 & 7 - 9am-Noon
Lewis University
Romeoville



Lewis University is teaming up with Will County to offer our second annual pumpkin collection.

With their help, and the Will County Farm Bureau and University of Illinois Extension Office, the event has expanded to TWO days, encouraging residents that may be unable to attend on Friday, to bring the kids on Saturday! Everyone that participates gets a raffle ticket for a chance to win one of four \$25 gift certificates to Heroes West in Joliet. Some other prizes may be given at the event or added to the raffle. Be sure to save your pumpkin and become part of a fun way to compost your old jack-o-lantern! More info is listed on our [event page](#)!

invite them to be part of our second annual America Recycles Day Green Non-Profit Contest!

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](#)

[Thermostat Recycling](#)

[Traditional Recycling Drop-Off Sites](#)
(Bottles, Cans, Paper, Cardboard)

[Tire Recycling Retailers](#)

New Transportation Option in Joliet!

There is a new way to get around town in Joliet. The **Pace West Joliet Call-n-Ride** offers reservation-based, curb-to-curb, shared-ride service for anyone within the designated service area* on weekdays between 6am - 6:15pm. Reserve your trip at least one hour (and up to 24 hours) in advance by calling 1-815-210-6960. There are also timed stops at Presence St. Joseph Hospital and Westfield Louis Joliet Mall. Please see the [Call-n-Ride section](#) at [PaceBus.com](#) for a complete schedule and more information.



* Service area is bounded by I-55 on the west, Route 30 on the north, Larkin on the east and Jefferson on the south.

\$5 for Mercury Thermostats!



On September 8, 2015 the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) and the Product Stewardship Institute (PSI) launched a year-long pilot project that offers Illinois residents and small heating and cooling contractors easy, convenient locations for dropping off their mercury-containing thermostats. **In exchange for each thermostat returned, participating hardware stores will provide a \$5 coupon that can be used at that store.** For a list of local participating locations, please visit Will County's [thermostat recycling page](#) on our Will County Green website.

Note: We will continue to accept thermostats at Household Hazardous Waste collections and at the Will County Land Use office but we cannot offer a coupon. Please turn thermostats into locations in a sealed plastic bag.

October is Farm to School Month!

Throughout the country, schools are increasing the fresh food options for students and adding locally grown foods. Will



Mark Your Calendar

October 20
School Energy Summit
6pm - 8pm
Homer Glen

October 24
Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Collection
8am-3pm
Wilmington

November 6 & 7
Pumpkin Pitch
9am-Noon
Romeoville

November 15
America Recycles Day
annual contest
iPad2 prize

Join Our Mailing List!



County has a program encouraging schools to grow gardens. Whenever children are involved in growing foods, they are more likely to eat them. This makes fresh vegetables and fruits fun to try! To learn more about the Farm to School effort, please visit their [website](#). To learn more about our Garden program, visit our [web page](#)! Lastly, to learn more about what is in season in our area and local farmer's markets, visit our [Farm Fresh web page](#)!

Make a Difference **USA TODAY** MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY October 24th!

The fourth Saturday of each October has become "Make a Difference Day" and it can be celebrated in numerous ways. We would like to suggest becoming involved in a volunteer project. Locally, a group known as [Helpers of Mother Earth](#) is doing a two hour clean up on Saturday, Oct. 24. Consider becoming part of this unique, local environmental event!

The Will County Forest Preserve is also seeking volunteers to assist throughout the County. Please consider contacting them through their [website](#) to learn about a variety of opportunities!

Homes are Going Solar!

In case you missed the Solar Tour, please look for these homes, located throughout the area, that were showcased. Many owners are taking advantage of Federal funding assistance. Solar panels are continually improving while the costs are dropping. Home systems are paying for themselves in five years! **Let us know if you go SOLAR!**



816 Douglas St., Joliet
County:
Will



8955 E Condor Ct., Minooka
County:
Will



1208 Levern Rd., Naperville
County:
Will



728 Citation Drive, Naperville
County:
DuPage



4909 Lobelia Lane, Plainfield
County:
Will



22561 Deer Path Lane, Plainfield
County:
Will





October 2015

Reuse Tip - Make Halloween Costumes from old clothes or shop Thrift Stores!



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