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**Spotlight on
Bubble Wrap!**



If you are like most people, getting bubble wrap is a fun, popping experience! We are here to tell you that you may pop it to your heart's content but when you are done, we urge you to recycle it.

Many people are not aware that bubble wrap may be recycled with plastic bags at many local retailers, such as Berkots, Jewel, Walmart, IKEA and Target. Anywhere plastic grocery bags are

TRANSPORTATION PLAN



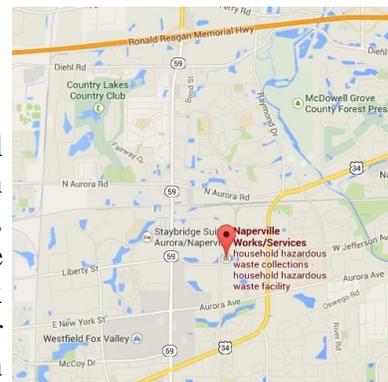
Get Involved with Will County's first Bike Plan & updated Transportation Plan!

Two efforts are underway and public input is valued. The County is in the midst of updating the [Will County Transportation Plan](#). This is an undertaking that reviews the highest traffic areas for cars and for trucks but can also include all the other modes of transportation in use, such as our train access for goods and for workers' commutes. Such a plan can review goods that are transported on our waterways and through the air. It can also consider pedestrian and bicycle use.

These last two items are of serious concern to the Forest Preserve District of Will County as they consider ways to connect Forest Preserve trails to bike lanes along roads and to various Park District trails. There are opportunities for residents to leave their cars at home as they bike to work or to worship or simply to various venues of shopping and entertainment. To this end, residents and businesses are encouraged to provide input. Click to learn more about the [Will County Bikeway Plan](#).

Regional HHW site relocated!

The first Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection site opened in Illinois in 1992, has been relocated. While Will County offers four to six one-day collection events for chemicals in the home each year, we also financially



collected accepts plastic bubble wrap because it is made from the same material - plastic film.

Of course if you can control your urge to pop, you may reuse the bubble wrap for the next item you mail or take it to a mailing retailer, such as an UPS store.

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](#)

support the regional HHW site in our area. This site was at Fire Station #4 on Brookdale and serviced 2,744 Will County residents in 2014. It is now located at 180 Fort Hill Drive at the Naperville Public Works. **It is open every Saturday and Sunday from 9am-2pm** to accept:

- Aerosol cans still containing product
- Automotive fluids (including oil, gasoline and anti-freeze, brake fluid)
- Asbestos materials (in a size that will fit in a 55-gallon drum; not in excess of 50 pounds)
- Batteries (including automotive, marine and sump pump)
- Fire extinguishers
- Flammables
- Fluorescent bulbs, CFLs (sealed, unbroken only)
- Household cleaners, drain openers and pool chemicals
- Mercury
- Paints and stains (oil based only)
- Poison, pesticides and fertilizers
- Prescription medications
- Propane tanks (20 pounds or less)
- Solvents and strippers
- Thermostats
- Unknown hazardous substances
- and Peanut Oil

Please make a note of the address and save the map above (by clicking it) as it may take up to a year for internet links to be fixed related to the change of location.

Popular Commuter Option Increases

Based on customer feedback [Pace](#) revised its popular **Bus on Shoulder** routes in late 2014 in response to suggestions from customers to provide faster, more direct service between Chicago and free park-n-rides in the southwest suburbs. The change means fewer stops and faster travel time. Route 855 was split into three routes- routes 850, 851, and 855 based upon which park-n-rides the route serves. The three new/revised routes- along with the



Steps to Green your organization



Will County has put together a list of steps that a variety of businesses, non-profits and other organizations have followed to save energy, recycle and increase revenue!

Mark Your Calendar

March 8
Set Clocks Ahead

March 16-22
Fix a Leak Week

March 28
Earth Hour
8:30pm-9:30pm

April 11
Recyclepalooza & Household Hazardous Waste Collection
8:00am-3:00pm
Saturday Joliet

April 7-17

existing Route 755- also had additional service added in response to ridership growth.

As of November, 2014, combined average daily ridership on Routes 755, 850, 851 and 855 averaged 1,282 daily riders. This is nearly 300% higher than what it was before shoulder operations began in November, 2011. In addition to significantly higher ridership, on-time performance is consistently in the low to mid- 90% range compared with 68% pre-BoS and the routes maintain an impeccable record of safe operations.

In light of these strong results, the Illinois General Assembly passed legislation making the Bus on Shoulder project permanent and also permitted the expansion of the program to other highways and tollways in the region. Work is underway with the Illinois Tollway for express operations on the shoulder of I-90 to begin in 2016, and discussions with the Illinois Department of Transportation have begun about other expansion opportunities.

PUMC Green Team Wins America Recycles Day Contest!



The Plainfield United Methodist Church's Green Team was the first of three winners to be presented with their iPad2. The organization, started in 2012 is best known for their annual Really, Really Free Market, but they also began a plastic bag to blanket recycling program, recycle cell phones, participate in conservation programs and much more. They intend to use the iPad2 as a camera, video recorder, computer, data storage and internet connection. Congratulations to the team, your congregation and your leadership!

Schools, Governments, Non-Profits: Buy Electronics Better



The State Electronics Challenge is a free program open to local governments, public & private K-

12 schools, universities, colleges, and non-profit

**Recycle Your
Bicycle
Monee Reservoir**

**April 19
Earth Day
Celebration
Plum Creek**

**April 22
Earth Day
45th Anniversary**

**April 24
Arbor Day**

**May 3
Earth Aid
11am-3pm
Sunday
Bolingbrook**

**May 9
Household
Hazardous Waste
Event
8am-3pm
Saturday
Bolingbrook**

**May 15
Textile
Collection(Clothes &
Shoes)
8:30am-4:30pm
Monday-Friday
Joliet**

May 16

organizations, that offers guidance and support for implementing sustainable practices for computers and imaging equipment. The Challenge provides access to free technical assistance, tools, resources, and recognition in support of efforts to decrease the environmental impact of electronic office equipment. It also documents the success of participating organizations. Program participants receive annual sustainability reports that detail their reductions in energy use, greenhouse gases, and waste. To learn more about the State Electronics Challenge, register for the upcoming introductory webinar:

February 26, 3-4pm EST. Register now:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3072011661860538114>

For more information, contact info@stateelectronicschallenge.net or visit the website at www.stateelectronicschallenge.net.

Grant for Community Curbside Service

The Recycling Partnership, an initiative of Curbside Value Partnership (CVP), is pleased to announce their 2015 funding opportunity for counties, municipalities and solid waste authorities seeking to improve their residential curbside recycling infrastructure. Specifically, the grants will provide funding for cart procurement and education and outreach programs. CVP will also provide successful applicants with tailored recycling education campaign materials to support the cart rollout, along with technical assistance for community recycling operations. Deadline is March 13. More details are available at <http://www.recyclecurbside.org/recycling-partnership-announces-2015-funding-opportunity/>



"Cleanest" Cars featured at Auto Show!

**Household
Hazardous Waste
Event**
8am-3pm
Saturday
Monee

**May 30
Bluestem Earth
Festival**
10am-4pm
Document Sredding
11am-1pm
Joliet

**June 5,6,7
Book ReUse &
Recycling Event**
9am-4pm
Joliet

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

**September 12
Sharefest**
8am-3pm
New Lenox

Join Our Mailing List!



February 2015

Electric and Hybrid top the list of "greenest" cars but there is a natural gas model in the top 10 and even a traditional gasoline car with amazing miles per gallon. Before auto shopping for home or business, review the list and add green rating to your criteria. <http://greencars.org/greeneast-meanest/greeneast>

Stay Warm & Save Energy



The US EPA wants you to be warm and comfortable this cold winter season. Consider changing a light to a dimable ENERGY STAR certified LED.

- LED bulbs that earn the ENERGY STAR label are independently certified to ensure they deliver on brightness and color, and shine light where you want it.
- ENERGY STAR LED lighting comes in a variety of shapes, sizes, and styles for all your home needs. And, many are dimmable for special occasions!

Keep the Cold Out and the Warmth In.

- Sealing air leaks found around outer walls, windows, doors, etc. and adding insulation can save you up to 20% on your heating bills.
- Install weather stripping on doors and caulk around windows.
- Check your attic insulation level. Learn how at energystar.gov/RuleYourAttic

Spring Ahead on March 8!

Just a gentle reminder that even in these cold days of February, Spring is just around the corner. Remember to set your clocks ahead and check the batteries in your smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detector.



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