

Recycling at Home

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The end is only the beginning when
you RECYCLE -Keane

Recycling History



- Recycling was a way of life when resources were difficult to obtain. But as clothing, cookware, etc became easier to purchase, people discarded more.
- During WWII, recycling was popular and patriotic
- Curbside recycling began in Illinois in the early 1980s
- Today many communities throughout Illinois offer curbside services

Common Items Collected



- Aluminum Cans, Foil & Cooking Trays
- Steel/Tin Cans (coffee, soup, paint cans)
- Glass Bottles (clear, green, brown, blue – but NO vases, doors, windows, ceramics)
- Plastic Bottles, Tubs & Buckets(#1-7)
(no #6 containers – PS = polystyrene or Styrofoam)
- Milk Cartons / Drink Boxes / Refill Aseptic Packaging
- 6-Pack Rings / Carrier Straps
- Cardboard (refrigerator boxes okay but no wax coating)
- Chipboard/Paperboard (pasta, cereal boxes, tissue boxes)
- Newspaper (including glossy inserts)
- Mixed Paper (includes white & colored paper, magazines, phone books, envelopes, unwanted mail, post-its, soft-cover books)

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Beyond the curb..



- Encourage Drop-Offs for small businesses & apartment residents
- Support Special Recycling Collections (Share & Care Recycling Event in Fall 2008)
- Encourage Local One-Day Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events
- Utilize the Permanent HHW Site near Rt. 88 & Rt. 59 in Naperville (open every Sat & Sun 9am-2pm)
- Support the upcoming Yorkville Electronic Recycling Drop-Off

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What is HHW?

Household Hazardous Waste

1971 Brookdale Rd
Naperville
Sat/Sun 9-2



Items commonly found in the home with toxic, flammable or corrosive properties such as:

- Oil-Based Paint, Stains, Varnishes
- Automotive Fluids (oil, antifreeze, brake fluid, transmission oil, gasoline, oil/gas mix)
- Mercury or items with it (thermometer, thermostat, fluorescent lights, CFLs)
- Pharmaceuticals (prescription & over the counter)
- Batteries (lead-acid, button, common household)
- Chemicals (lawn, garden, cleaning, pesticides, etc)
- Solvents, Drain Cleaners, Nail Polish Remover

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Pharmaceuticals



- Over the past 7 yrs, the United States Geological Survey has found pharmaceuticals in 80% of the streams and waterways tested.
- Medications we take linked to fish issues
- They've determined that drugs are able to pass through waste water treatment facilities and enter our fresh water resources
- Yorkville PD & the Illinois EPA running a Medication Take-Back Program to raise awareness & reduce drugs in our water & garbage

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What about Tires?



- Whole Tires are banned from Landfills
- The average auto tire contains 7 gallons of oil (that's why they burn)
- Whenever you purchase a new tire, you pay a tire disposal fee even if you keep your old tire
- Tires hold stagnant water; becoming breeding grounds for mosquitoes
- Most tire retailers will take tires for a fee of \$2 or \$3 per tire

Electronics go Obsolete

- Real Simple magazine reported Flat-Screen TVs - life expectancy of 10 yrs
DVD players & Computers - 5 yrs, and the latest Cell Phones/iPods - only 2-3 yrs
- The resources and energy used to make new electronic items far outweighs the amount needed to upgrade or repair them, but buying new costs less to our pocketbooks
- Worldwide an estimated 20-50 million tons of electronic waste is generated annually; an estimated 85% of it is landfilled!

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Recycle Electronics



- The first one-day collection of electronics in the Midwest was held in 1996
- The Village of Oswego and Will County currently offer permanent Electronic Recycling Drop-Offs to residents.
- Everything with a computer chip (TVs, VCRs, phones, calculators, cameras, computers, printers, radios, stereos, etc) is accepted.
- Yorkville just approved the opening of a permanent Electronic Recycling Drop-Off.

Recycle Batteries



- Rechargeable batteries are accepted at any retailer that sells rechargeable batteries
- Kendall County Health Dept accepts household batteries
- Lead-Acid batteries are taken at many scrap yards & some retail establishments

More ReUse & Recycling



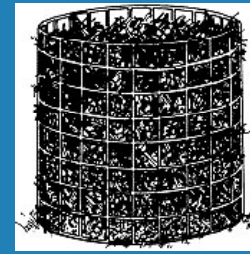
- Library Offers Magazines, drop-off your gently read & pick-up another
- Books you no longer want, donate, offer on Free Cycle, sell to a second-hand book store
- Eye-glasses – accepted by Lions Club
- Canes, Crutches, Wheelchairs taken by charity organizations

Clothing & Toys



- Polyester comes from natural gas and oil, it is made from the same recipe as a Plastic Soda Bottle (soda bottles become carpet)
- Cotton takes the most pesticides to grow but its durability is incredible – even if it can't be reused, it can always be Recycled!
- Host a Garage Sale, give to a relative or friend or DONATE to Yorkville's Goodwill

Food



- The Northern Illinois Food Bank picks up food from grocery stores, restaurants and banquet halls for distribution to Food Pantries, etc.
- The next time you book an event, ask what happens to the leftover food.
- Compost your food scraps



Reduce ReUse Recycle

- Recycle at home, at work, at church.
- Recycle at Fairs, at Parks, at Sports Events; recycle everywhere you go!
- NEXT STEP: Reducing our waste, reusing materials and finding ways to make items that are less toxic or resource depleting (i.e. items made from recycled materials)

Questions? -More Info



Yorkville Web Site -

www.yorkville.il.us/greencommittee.php

Waste Wise Program - www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/reduce/wstewise/index.htm

Freecycle –

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/KendallCounty-Freecycle/>

Earth 911 Web Site – www.earth911.org

Energy Star (appliances, lights)- www.energystar.gov/

Water Reduction - www.wateruseitwisely.com

Green Building - www.usgbc.org

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