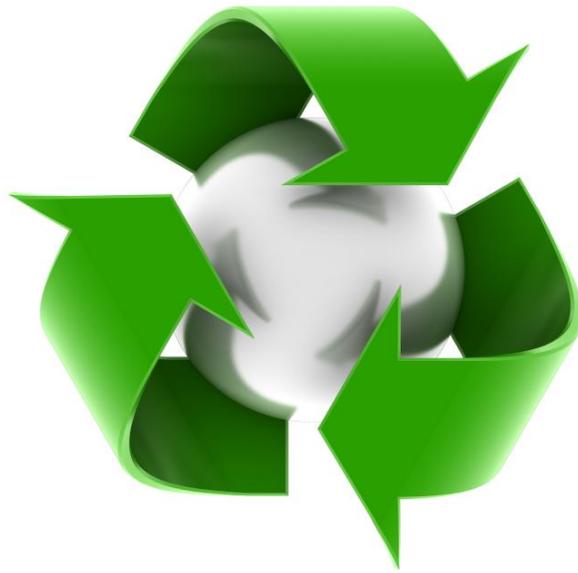


Kendall County Green Pages



Kendall County Health Department
Office of Solid Waste Management

811 West John Street Yorkville, IL 60560
630-553-9100, ext. 8026 • Fax 630-553-9603
www.kendallhealth.org

Introduction

Welcome to the **Kendall County “Green Pages”**, a comprehensive yet unexhausted listing of national, state and local solid waste disposal and recycling resources. Additional hard copies of the Green Pages may be obtained by contacting the Kendall County Health Department’s Environmental Health Unit at (630) 553-8026; an electronic version is available on our website, www.kendallhealth.org (found under Environmental Health).

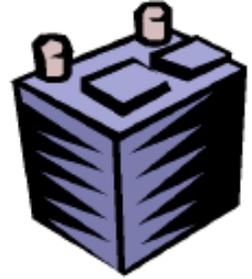
We hope you enjoy (and we strongly encourage you to take full advantage of) the many recycling opportunities offered within this 4th **edition**. Also, we ask that you please contact our Office of Solid Waste Management at (630) 553-8068 or mhartman@co.kendall.il.us should you discover the need for an informational update or any inaccuracies contained within this edition (the Green Pages currently are updated on a bi-annual basis).

Finally, any feedback you may have regarding the Green Pages is welcome and very much appreciated. As stewards of our environment, ensuring proper disposal or recycling of our solid and hazardous wastes is a responsibility we all share. Your comments and suggestions may serve to improve our Green Pages, better educate our community, and ultimately protect the environment in which we live.

*Kendall County Health Department
Office of Solid Waste Management
(630) 553-8068*

Tip: The Green Pages can be found on our website, www.kendallhealth.org

The many websites provided in this helpful guide have been established as “hyperlinks”. If viewing the Green Pages on the internet, simply right click on the hyperlink of your choice and be “transported” directly to the website of your choice!



THE WORD ON LANDFILL BANS

Over the years a number of household and commercial “discards” have been banned from Illinois landfills. These items were banned for good reason. It was considered feasible and made good sense to reclaim and recycle these discards, thereby preserving limited landfill space. Additionally, landfill bans have served to better protect our environment (especially our groundwater resources) from certain discards containing known and potentially dangerous heavy metals and chemicals.

The following items have been banned from Illinois landfills:

Year Banned	Product
1990	Lead-Acid Batteries
1990	Landscape Waste
1994	Whole Waste Tires
1996	Motor Oil
1997	"White Goods" (i.e., major household appliances)
2012	Electronic Devices



LOCAL WASTE HAULERS

Waste Haulers Permitted to Operate in Kendall County as of *1/01/10

** Operating permits are issued annually and at the start of each year*

Allied Waste Services	630-892-9294 800-854-4380
Complete Sanitation LLC	815-496-9000 630-552-9640
Groot Industries	847-734-6440
Veolia FS	630-762-8000
Waste Management	800-747-2278

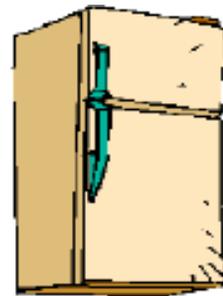


DID YOU KNOW ...the Kendall County Residential Recycling Ordinance [requires] that all residential waste haulers operating within the limits of Kendall County offer their (residential) customers basic recycling service – and at no additional charge.

Contact your waste hauler for information on recycling, and to request additional recycling bins.

A WORD ABOUT “WHITE GOODS”

“WHITE GOODS”, a term used to describe major household appliances (i.e., refrigerators, clothes washing machines and dryers, dishwashers, water heaters, and air conditioners), **require a special pick-up**. Contact your waste hauler for details (a nominal fee may apply).



TIRE/MOTOR OIL DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING



Motor oil, transmission fluid, antifreeze, and other automotive fluids should not be disposed of in a municipal solid waste landfill (nor should they be poured down a storm drain or dumped onto the ground). In fact, motor oil has been banned from Illinois landfills since 1996. Improper disposal of automotive fluids puts the health of our environment, including ourselves, at risk.

The responsible approach is to take unused and wasted automotive fluids to a household hazardous collection (*see page 9*) for recycling. Motor oil on the other hand, and whole waste tires, may be taken to the following participating local retailers for safe and proper disposal.



Please call the retailer(s) of your choice to verify those automotive fluids accepted, and whether or not a drop-off fee applies. Motor oil must be stored in a leak-proof container marked “used motor oil”, and must not be mixed with other automotive fluids or chemicals.

Oswego

Keith’s Car Care
5 S. Madison
630-554-8911
MO, T(F)

Plano

Tire Tracks
118 E. South St
630-552-1776
T(F)

Sandwich

Arneson’s Tire Co.
100 Getty Rd.
815-786-7670
MO, T(F)

Oswego

Discount Tire Co., Inc.
230 Douglas Rd
630-906-7131
T(F)

Plano

Express Lube
1001 W. Rte. 34
630-552-7600
MO

Yorkville

Wholesale Tire Co.
1209 N. Bridge St.
630-553-5300
T(F)

Yorkville

Grainco FS Service Co.
8115 Rte. 47
630-553-6520
T(F)

Key	
MO	Motor Oil (unmixed)
T	Tires
F	Drop-off fee may apply



PLEASE NOTE: THE KENDALL COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT SPONSORS AN ANNUAL USED MOTOR OIL COLLECTION EVENT ON THE SATURDAY BEFORE FATHER’S DAY. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL **630-553-5457**.

AREA RENTAL CENTERS

In order to reduce the items you may throw away in the future, consider renting items your family may only use once or twice from a local rental center. (Items such as rototillers, spray paint equipment, party supplies, construction items, etc.)

Yorkville

Ace Rental Place
9620 Rte. 34
630-553-1900
(Rents Rug Doctors only)

Aurora

Rental Max
929 N. Lake (Rte. 31)
630-897-8434

Plano

Haas Equipment Rental
(no storefront – they deliver)
630-552-3579

Yorkville

Grand Rental Station
1262 S. Bridge St.
630-553-3111

Oswego

First Place Rental
4975 Rte. 71
630-554-3155
www.firstplacental.com

RECYCLING BATTERIES

People are using more and more household batteries. In fact, the average person owns about two button batteries, ten normal (A, AA, AAA, C, D, 9V, etc.) batteries, and throws out about eight household batteries per year. Unfortunately, batteries contain heavy metals such as mercury, lead, cadmium, and nickel, which can contaminate the environment when batteries are improperly disposed of. (Source: Environment, Health and Safety Online)

Preventing Household Battery Waste

Before learning how best to dispose of our batteries, let’s consider ways in which we might reduce battery waste. Reducing waste starts with prevention. Starting with prevention creates less or no leftover waste to become potentially hazardous waste. The following are steps to take to prevent household battery waste.

- Check to see if you already have the batteries on hand before buying more.
- When suited to the task buy hand operated items that function without batteries.
- Look for the batteries that have less mercury and heavy metals.
- Consider rechargeable batteries for some needs, but remember that they also contain heavy metals such as nickel-cadmium.

SUMMARY OF BATTERY DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING METHODS

Battery Type	Common Name	Sizes Available	Examples of Use	Disposal classification	Proper Disposal
Alkaline (manganese) # 1	Coppertop, Alkaline	AAA, AA, C, D, 6V, 9V	Flashlights, calculators, toys, clocks, smoke alarms, remote controls	non- hazardous waste	Considered safe for disposal in the normal municipal waste stream, but they can be recycled!
Button # 2	Mercuric Oxide, Silver Oxide, Lithium, Alkaline, Zinc-Air	Sizes vary	Watches, hearing aids, toys, greeting cards, remote controls	hazardous waste	Check for a recycling center or bring to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Site (see page 14)
Carbon Zinc (# 1)	"Classic", Heavy Duty, General Purpose, All Purpose, Power Cell	AAA, AA, C, D 6V, 9V	Flashlights, calculators, toys, clocks, smoke alarms, remote controls, garage door openers	non- hazardous waste	Considered safe for disposal in the normal municipal waste stream, but they can be recycled!
Lithium / Lithium Ion # 3	Usually has "lithium" label on the battery	3V, 6V, 3V button	Cameras, calculators, computer memory back-up	non- hazardous waste	Considered safe for disposal in the normal municipal waste stream, but they can be recycled!
Nickel-Cadmium (Rechargeable) # 4	Either unlabeled or labeled "Ni-Cd"	AAA, AA, C, D, 6V, 9V	Flashlights, toys, cellular phones, power tools, computer packs	hazardous waste	Check for a recycling center or bring to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Site (see page 14)
Nickel Metal Hydride (Rechargeable) # 4	Either unlabeled or labeled "Ni-Li" or "Ni- Hydride)	AAA, AA, C, D, 6V, 9V	Flashlights, toys, cellular phones, power tools, computer packs	non- hazardous waste	Considered safe for disposal in the normal municipal waste stream, but they can be recycled!

<p><i>Reusable Alkaline Manganese (Rechargeable) # 5</i></p>	<p><i>Renewal</i></p>	<p><i>AAA, AA, C, D</i></p>	<p><i>Flashlights, calculators, toys, clocks, radios, remote controls</i></p>	<p><i>non-hazardous waste</i></p>	<p><i>Considered safe for disposal in the normal municipal waste stream, but they can be recycled!</i></p>
<p><i>Sealed Lead Acid (Rechargeable) # 5</i></p>	<p><i>"Gel," VRB, AGM, Cyclone, El Power, Dynasty, Gates, Lithonia, Saft, Panasonic, Yuasa</i></p>	<p><i>Multiples of 2 Volts: 2V, 6V, 12V</i></p>	<p><i>Video cameras, power tools, wheelchairs, ATV's, metal detectors, clocks, cameras</i></p>	<p><i>hazardous waste</i></p>	<p><i>Check for a recycling center or bring to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Site (see page 14)</i></p>
<p><i>Lead Acid Vehicle Batteries # 6</i></p>	<p><i>Autozone, Sears Die Hard, Yuasa</i></p>	<p><i>12V, 6V</i></p>	<p><i>Cars, trucks, motorcycles</i></p>	<p><i>hazardous waste</i></p>	<p><i>Take back to place of purchase. Most places that sell car batteries will also accept them for recycling. There may be a fee for this service.</i></p>

Local Battery Recyclers *(Highlighted Numbers Refer to Types of Batteries They Accept)*

Yorkville

Ace Hardware- #5
Home Depot- #2, 4, 5
NAPA Auto Parts- #6
AutoZone- #6

Plano

Wal-Mart- #2, 3, 4, 5, 6
AutoZone- #6

Oswego

Home Depot- #2, 3, 4, 5
Lowe's- #3, 4, 6
Wal-Mart- #6
NAPA Auto Parts- #6

Sandwich

NAPA Auto Parts- #6

Montgomery

RadioShack- #4, 5
Office Depot- #3, 4, 5
AutoZone- #6
Farm & Fleet- #6

Plainfield

Kin-Ko Ace Hardware- #3, 4

Shorewood

Home Depot- #1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Joliet

Home Depot- #1, 2, 3, 4, 5
RadioShack- #4, 5
Sam's Club- #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Best Buy- #1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Sears- #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Naperville

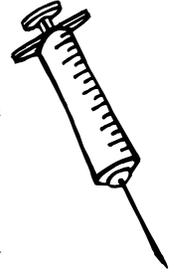
Wal-Mart- #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
RadioShack- #4, 5
Home Depot- #4, 5
Sam's Club- #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Office Depot- #1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Ace Hardware- #4, 5
Sears- #6
Lowe's- #1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Aurora

Home Depot- #3, 4, 5
RadioShack- #1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Lowe's- #1, 2, 3, 4
Wal-Mart- #6
Verizon Store- #4
US Cellular- #4

DISPOSAL TIPS FOR HOME HEALTH CARE WASTE PRODUCTS

YOU can help prevent injury, illness, and pollution by following some simple steps when you dispose of the sharp objects and contaminated materials you use in administering health care in your home. You should place **needles, syringes, lancets, and other sharp objects** in a hard-plastic or metal container with a screw-on or tightly secured lid.



Many containers found in the household will do (i.e., a coffee can), or you may purchase containers specifically designed for the disposal of medical waste sharps. Before discarding a container, be sure to reinforce the lid with heavy-duty tape. **Do not put sharp objects in any container you plan to recycle or return to a store, and do not use glass or clear plastic containers** (see additional information below). Finally, make sure that you keep all containers with sharp objects out of the reach of children and pets.



We also recommend that **soiled bandages, disposable sheets, and medical gloves** be placed in securely fastened plastic bags before you put them in the garbage can with your other trash.

If using a recyclable container to dispose of medical waste sharps, make sure that you don't mix the container with other materials to be recycled. Since the sharps impair a container's recyclability, a container holding your medical waste sharps properly belongs with regular household trash. You may even want to label the container, "NOT FOR RECYCLING". These steps go a long way toward protecting workers and others from possible injury.

DISPOSAL OF UNUSED/EXPIRED MEDICATIONS

Expired or unwanted medicines, if flushed down the toilet or drain, are a source of pollution in wastewater. Because sewage treatment plants are not designed to deal with drugs, these chemicals can be released into streams, lakes, and groundwater and affect fish and other aquatic wildlife. You might imagine that any substance safe enough for humans and pets to ingest as medication wouldn't harm the environment. But that may not be the case. If our medicines are reaching streams, rivers, and lakes, organisms living in these habitats may be *continuously* exposed to these drugs. Some aquatic organisms living in waters downstream from wastewater treatment plants are showing signs of developmental and reproductive problems. Researchers are working to determine whether pharmaceuticals are causing these effects. Meanwhile, Kendall County has provided you with a safe, simple solution!



YOU TOO CAN PLAY A ROLE IN PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT!

Do Not:

1. Flush medications down the sink or drain.
2. Place in the trash.
3. Give or sell to others.

Instead.....

Unused and expired medications may be dropped off at the Yorkville Police Department, 804 Game Farm Road, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Your medicines will be locked up and disposed of in a safe and environmentally friendly manner.

Acceptable Medicines – Residents may bring in pills, salves, and liquid medicines in original containers; pills in separate bags and liquid or salves in non-leaking containers. Labels on medicines are not required. **Items not accepted** – Sharps, needles, IV bags, thermometers, and medicines stocked by nursing homes, clinics, doctors offices or other businesses which distribute medications. Note: An individual who obtained medications for personal use from a clinic, doctor, or nursing home can dispose of these medications at the Yorkville Police Department.

UNUSED AND EXPIRED MEDICATION PROGRAM SPONSORS

**United City of Yorkville
Environmental Protection Agency
Kendall County TRIAD
Yorkville Police Department Illinois**

**Kendall County Health Department
Bristol Sanitary District
Kendall County State’s Attorney
OSCO Drug**

For additional information on Kendall County’s Unused and Expired Medicines collection program, please contact Officer Barry Groesch, Community Programs Director, Yorkville Police Department at 630-553-4340 (non-emergency).

FOX METRO Water Reclamation District also has a new **“Medication Take-Back Program”** which serves the district’s area. For more information about this program, please go to <http://www.foxmetro.dst.il.us/public-notices.htm>.

ALUMINUM CAN BUY-BACK:

SS Metal
336 E. Sullivan
Aurora, IL 60505
630-844-3344





USED PAINT DISPOSAL ALTERNATIVES

PLEASE DO NOT BRING LATEX PAINT TO HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION SITES

IEPA's Household Hazardous Waste Program is a widely accepted and acclaimed system that works with local governments to divert residential waste materials with hazardous characteristics out of local solid waste landfills. The demand for this service far exceeds state resources available to deal with the wastes. A number of cost-containment features have been implemented over the years to increase efficiency. But demand continues to accelerate.

At every collection, in every part of the state, paint is the most common material delivered by Illinois citizens. Encouragement to use up leftover paint or give usable paint to a neighbor has not decreased the amount of latex paint significantly. Today's latex (water-based) paint has a very low level of toxicity. Disposing of it at a household hazardous waste collection day is very expensive. Therefore, the Illinois EPA encourages people with unwanted latex paint to use other options.

Disposal Alternatives:

After your painting job is done you may have some leftover paint. The question now is: "What should you do with it?" Here are some alternatives:

Keep Painting! This may sound simple, and it is. What better place to put that last pint or so of paint but right up there on the wall where it blends in perfectly with all the other paint you just put there. Sure, it's a little extra work - and right when you thought you were done for the day - but you'll be rid of that extra paint for good. Simply let the paint in the can dry and then recycle or dispose of it.

Paint Something Else! It doesn't even have to need the paint. Use an old piece of cardboard, some scrap lumber, or the inside of your garage. Just about anywhere would probably work to use up that last bit of paint.



Use an Absorbent like Kitty Litter!

Kitty litter, sawdust, shredded paper or just about anything else that will absorb moisture and let the paint dry out should work here. Depending on how full the can is, you can just add the absorbent to the can and mix it up. When the liquids are absorbed, dry the mixture out or dispose of it directly. You may be able to empty the can, dry it out, and recycle it.

Give It to Someone! Look around and you may find somebody who needs to paint a small area. Some schools or local theater will take some small amount of paint for scenery.

Store it for Later! Everyone has good intentions to use half-filled paint cans for “touch-ups” that never come. Also, many people have saved paint that becomes unusable over time before it’s called into action. If you do save your paint for later, follow some easy tips to make the paint last longer. Just cover the opening with plastic wrap, and make sure the lid fits securely so the paint doesn’t leak. Then turn the paint can upside down! This creates a tight seal, and keeps the paint fresh to use again.

PROPER DISPOSAL OF DRIVEWAY SEALER

Leftover blacktop sealants containing petroleum distillates or coal tar are considered hazardous and should be disposed of as part of a hazardous waste collection program. Be aware that many driveway sealers may be latex based but may still contain petroleum distillates or coal tar. Therefore, unlike latex paints, latex based driveway sealers may be hazardous. Please read the label carefully. If the driveway sealer *does not contain petroleum distillates or coal tar* it is considered non-hazardous and you may dispose of it by drying it out and disposing of it with the ordinary trash.



PROPANE TANKS:

Amerigas Propane, 25224 W. Rte. 30, call 815-436-2011

Grainco FS, 8115 S. Rte. 47, call 630-553-6520

COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS (CFLs)

Commercial/Industrial

Everlights
9901 S. Torrence
Chicago, IL 60617
(www.everlights.com)

Tip: Save box that the fluorescent bulbs come in to store bulbs once they are used.

Residential

Yorkville Ace Hardware
9620 US Rte. 34
Yorkville, IL 60560
630-553-1900

Home Depot Stores

Turn the page for helpful information on cleaning up a broken CFL!!



Compact Fluorescent Light Safety Information

With the increased use of compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) in homes, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) provides the following information that may be useful to you.

CFLs contain about 5 milligrams of mercury, which is about the size of the tip of a ballpoint pen. For comparison purposes, a mercury-based fever thermometer contains about 500 milligrams of mercury. IDPH considers a broken fever thermometer a small mercury spill, and provides instructions for cleaning such spills in our fact sheet available at:

<http://www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/factsheets/mercuryspills.htm>



The amount of mercury vapor that is released from one broken CFL poses little risk; however, it is best to reduce exposure to mercury. Residents can reduce exposure by following these recommendations for clean-up of a broken CFL:

- Windows and outside doors in the area of the spill should be opened to ventilate the area.
- **Do NOT use a vacuum cleaner to clean up broken CFL.** A vacuum cleaner will rapidly aerosolize the mercury droplets and the resultant mercury vapors can then be inhaled. In addition, the vacuum cleaner may become contaminated with mercury.
- **For CFL breakage on a hard surface,** you should collect the pieces as you would any broken glass using a broom, two pieces of cardboard or stiff paper. Place the broken pieces in a sealed plastic bag or container. A damp disposable rag or paper towel should be used to do a final wipe of the area. Place the rag or paper towel in the plastic bag or container with the broken bulb pieces and dispose of it outside in your household trash.
- **For CFL breakage on a carpet** or other soft surface like upholstered furniture, carefully collect and bag the broken parts as described above. Dab the area with the sticky side of duct tape or packaging tape to pick up any powder residue, mercury droplets, and small pieces of glass. Place the tape in the plastic bag or container and dispose of it outside in your household trash. To prevent cuts from any remaining glass, protect the area from contact for two weeks until any remaining mercury has evaporated away and the carpeting can be vacuumed safely.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency suggests persons take used CFLs to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection location rather than disposing of them in household waste: <http://www.epa.state.il.us/land/hazardous-waste/household-haz-waste>

(Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, March 2008)

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)



Long-Term Collection Facilities Sponsored by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

This service is provided free of charge and is open to ALL Illinois residents. Please note that only residential (household) wastes will be accepted. Contact a commercial - industrial solid waste hauler or reclamation service to arrange for the safe and proper disposal or recycling of hazardous commercial, industrial or agricultural wastes.

Naperville: 1971 Brookdale Rd.
[Location](#) (*hyperlink*)
Fire Station #4

For Information:
Phone: 630-420-4190

Rockford: 3333 Kishwaukee
[Location](#) (*hyperlink*)
Rock River
Reclamation District

For Information:
Phone: 815-987-5570

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTES ACCEPTED:

AEROSOL PRODUCTS	ANTIFREEZE
BATTERIES (household size)	CLEANING PRODUCTS
FLUORESCENT LAMPS	GASOLINE
LAWN CHEMICALS	MOTOR OIL
PESTICIDES	POOL CHEMICALS
SOLVENTS	HOBBY/PHOTOGRAPHIC CHEMICALS
PAINTS, STAINS, FINISHES (<i>please, no latex paints – see page 11</i>)	

PLEASE DO NOT BRING:

AMMUNITION, EXPLOSIVES, FIREWORKS, OR GUNPOWDER. BIOLOGICAL OR MEDICAL WASTES. FIRE EXTINGUISHERS, PROPANE TANKS, OR SMOKE DETECTORS.

Single-Day Collection Events

Sponsored by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Please visit the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's website at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/land/hazardous-waste/household-haz-waste/hhwc-schedule.html> or call the IEPA's Waste Reduction Unit at 217-785-8604 for an up-to-date listing of single-day Household Hazardous Waste collection events held around the State.

BUYING RECYCLED-CONTENT PRODUCTS

HOME FURNISHING & DECORATING

Carpeting: Guarantee General Store, Wheaton, 630-668-0248
Shaw Carpeting, call 800-441-7429 for locations

Trash Bags: “Renew”, sold at Certi-Saver Grocery, Family Food Grocery
“Seventh Generation”, sold in the Harmony Catalog, 800-869-3446

OTHER PRODUCTS

www.uncommongoods.com

Cufflinks from circuit boards, typewriter key necklace, stop sign table, sprocket desk clock, etc.

www.ecomall.com

Thousands of products. Lumber, jewelry, patio furniture and more

www.treecycle.com

Paper products from recycled paper & environmentally friendly cleaning products

www.Tonerrecycler.com

Recycling toner cartridges

www.amazingrecycled.com Picture frames of bicycle tires, recycled glass wind chimes, glass sun catchers, molded recycled crayons

GENERAL RECYCLING INFORMATION

www.nrc-recycle.org

National Recycling Coalition

www.Earth911.org

Call 630-741-0736 for info on local recycling

www.illinoisrecycles.org

Illinois Recycling Association

www.100toprecyclingsites.com

100 top recycling sites

www.thinkgreenfromhome.com



COMPOSTING YARDWASTE

What Is Compost?

Compost is one of the most valuable resources for beautifying your landscape, and it is virtually free. The leaves you rake, the grass you mow, and the branches you trim are some of the ingredients you can use to make compost. Finished compost is dark and has a pleasant smell. It is produced when organic matter, such as garden, lawn, and kitchen waste, is broken down by bacteria and fungi.

Use it throughout your landscape - till it into gardens and flower beds, add it to the soil when renovating your lawn, or sieve it and use it in potting soil.

The Compost Bin

A compost pile can be as plain or fancy as you want - you don't even need a bin to make compost. But if you plan to produce compost regularly, consider a permanent compost bin. For convenience and aesthetics, you can choose from numerous commercial composters or construct your own from wooden planks, concrete blocks, used freight pallets, hardware cloth, or chicken-wire.



Before purchasing a commercial composter, determine if it will work effectively in your landscape. It should be well built, economical according to your needs, easy to assemble, and have easy access for turning the compost. It should also be large enough to handle all the leaves in your yard.

Some gardeners build separate bins for each stage of the compost process - one for fresh plant refuse, another for the actively composting pile, and a third for the finished compost. When building your own bin, keep one side open for easy access. Also, leave spaces between blocks or planks for aeration - air is essential to the rapid decay of organic materials.

The size of the compost pile determines how effective it will be; piles smaller than 27 cubic feet (3 X 3 X 3) do not hold sufficient heat for the composting to be effective, and piles larger than 125 cubic feet (5 X 5 X 5) do not allow sufficient oxygen to reach the center. Be sure your compost pile is a manageable size.

Compost bins can be purchased locally from most home and hardware stores, as well as the Kendall County Health Department (limited supply) and the Kendall County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Announcement!

Keys to Good Composting

- The carbon/nitrogen ratio: A mixture of dry leaves, sawdust, or other sources of carbon combined with manure, green plants, or fertilizer for nitrogen (approximately 4:1 by volume).
- The presence of microorganisms: A few shovels full of rich garden soil or compost will supply these.
- The moisture level: The pile should have the moisture of a well-squeezed sponge. Add water as needed.
- The oxygen level: A compost pile should be turned periodically to promote decay of its contents. Turning the pile adds oxygen, so the more you turn it, the faster it breaks down. (Turning heavy, rotting leaves and grass is vigorous exercise!)
- The particle size: The finer the particle size, the more surface there is for microorganisms to work. Shredding leaves and larger materials generates compost faster.

Making Compost

Locate your compost pile on a well-drained site which would benefit from nutrients running off the pile. Your pile can be built gradually in layers and then turned to mix. Or if you have sufficient material, it can be mixed and blended at one time.



To ensure good aeration and drainage, put down a 3-inch layer of coarse plant material, such as small twigs or chopped corn stalks, or a wooden pallet.

Next, add about 8 to 10 inches of leaves or other dry organic wastes from your landscape and/or kitchen.

Provide nitrogen for compost-promoting microorganisms by adding 2 to 3 inches of fresh grass clippings or fresh manure. If fresh nitrogen sources are unavailable, add about one-third cup synthetic fertilizer (36-0-0) per 25 square feet of surface area.

If no soil is included in your compost material, add a sprinkling of soil or a compost starter to each layer to inoculate the pile with microorganisms. Moisten the pile as you add leaves and other dry material.

Mix the materials thoroughly. Shape the pile so its center is lower than its sides, to help water flow into the pile. Keep the pile moist, but not soaking wet. Within a few days, it should heat up. If not, it may lack nitrogen or moisture. If the pile emits an ammonia smell, it is too wet or too tightly packed for oxygen circulation; turn the heap and add coarse material to increase air space. Once a month, turn the pile with a pitch fork, putting the outside materials on the inside and vice versa.

The plant materials should decompose into compost within five months in warm weather, longer under cool or dry conditions. The center of the pile should reach 160°F to kill most weed seed, insects and eggs, and disease organisms. Composting may be completed in one or two months if the materials are shredded, kept moist, and turned several times to provide good aeration. Spread it in the garden and dig or till it under to offer your soil and plants renewed vigor.

Compost All Your Yard Wastes

Grass clippings and fall leaves are abundant compost materials for most homeowners. Weeds free of seedheads and crop residues, such as vines and leaves, are other sources. Never include weed seed or perennial roots or stems that might become established. Collect vegetable and fruit peelings, coffee grounds, crushed eggshells, and similar kitchen waste for your compost pile. Don't use meat waste; it attracts animals. Acquire additional materials, such as sawdust, manure, hay, or straw, from sources such as stables and carpenter shops.

Benefits of Composting

- **Compost** improves the structure of soil. With the addition of compost, sandy soils hold water better, and clay soils drain faster.
- **Compost** reduces soil erosion and water run-off. Plant roots penetrate compost-rich soil easier and hold the soil in place. Water can run down into lower soil layers, rather than puddle on top of the ground and run off.
- Compost provides food for earthworms, soil insects, and beneficial microorganisms.
- **Compost** assists the soil in holding nutrients, thus lessening the need for chemical fertilizers and preventing the leaching of nitrogen into water.
- **Compost** promotes healthy plants which are less susceptible to diseases and insect pests, reducing the need for pesticides.
- **Composting** in your backyard recycles wastes which might otherwise fill up landfills. Leaves, grass, and debris - often raked into the street for collection - tend to clog storm drains and street gutters and are costly to collect, but make excellent compost materials.

Bag the bag!

A Word on Mulching Grass Clippings

Mulching grass clippings back into the lawn is actually really good for the grass. It helps to put nutrients back into the soil and it also enriches the overall composition of the soil.



RE-USE AND RESALE SHOPS



Do you have clothes that you no longer wear? Do you have unused furniture or other household items that are cluttering your basement or attic? Don't throw them away! There are resale shops in the area that can save these items from going to the landfill.

Montgomery

Salvation Army
1800 Douglas Rd.
630-897-4855
Clothing, miscellaneous

Morris

St. Vincent DePaul
1427 Division Street
815-942-9288
Clothing, miscellaneous

Yorkville

Caring Hands Thrift Shop
220 S. Bridge St.
630-553-1847
Clothing, miscellaneous

Yorkville

Goodwill, 481 E. Countryside Pkwy, 630-553-6969



COMPUTER AND ELECTRONICS RECYCLING OPTIONS

The United City of Yorkville has established a used electronics recycling drop off site at the city's Public Works facility, 610 Tower Lane, Yorkville, IL 60560.

More information can be obtained by calling Yorkville's Public Works Department at 630-553-4370

The Village of Oswego has established a used electronics recycling drop off site at the city's Public Works facility, 100 Theodore Dr., Oswego, IL 60543. Drop-offs are accepted every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month. More information can be obtained by calling 630-554-6450.

PHONE FIRST! Items normally accepted:

Calculators, cell phones, portable music players, CD and tape players, radios, boom boxes, speakers, computer laptops, computer notebooks, desktop computers, computer monitors (CRT and LCD), printers, copiers, VCRs, DVD players, televisions, telephones, microwaves, and other standard household electronic devices.

- **Assistive Technology Exchange Network: Program with United Cerebral Palsy Association**
Refurbished computers sent to schools throughout Illinois to children with disabilities. They will accept 486, Pentium and Macintosh. Drop-off locations are in Tinley Park, Cicero, and Chicago; or they will arrange for pick-ups. 800-476-2836 for donations, 708-444-2836 for info. www.ucpnet.org
- **Electronic Industries Alliance** (comprehensive web-based resource for reuse & recycling used electronics) 703-907-7790, www.eiae.org
- **Call to Protect Program** (wireless phones donated for prevention of domestic abuse)
202-785-0081, www.calltoprotect.org
- **System Service International**, 250 W. North Ave., Lombard, IL 60148
630-627-3200, www.ssisystem.com
- **Best Buy**, 3351 Mall Loop Drive, Joliet, IL 60431, 815/609-0772
- **Salvation Army**, 888-574-2587. Equipment is sold in thrift stores. Accepts working computers and TV's.

REUSE ORGANIZATIONS

- **Am vets**, 708-388-7800, www.amvets.com
- **Follett Educational Services** (text buy-back), 800-621-4272, www.fes.follett.com
- **Goodwill**, 888-353-6400, www.goodwill.org
- **Operation Toy Box** (distributes gently used stuffed animals, games, puzzles, books, etc. to children victimized by natural disasters) www.operationtoybox.com
- **Purple Hearts**, 708-396-8995, www.purplehearts.org
- **Salvation Army**, 773-477-1300, www.salvationarmy.org

Recycle Your Water!

Rain barrels can be purchased from the Yorkville-based **Kendall County Soil and Water Conservation District**, 630-553-5821 and the Naperville-based **Conservation Foundation**, 630-428-4500, ext. 32.



CUSTOM IMPRINTED RECYCLED-CONTENT PRODUCTS



Clothes Made from Scrap (t-shirts/bags/hats), 386-447-6656
www.clothesmadefromscrap.com

Direct Access (backpacks/lunch bags), 800-811-7383, www.directaccessintl.com

JV Johnson & Associates (lunch bags/pencils), 847-299-7755, www.newtonmfg.com

Signature Marketing (recycled plaques & more), 960-658-7172
www.signaturemarketing.com

COMPOSTING PRODUCTS & MATERIALS

BioCorp “reSource” Ware (products made from corn, potato & wheat starches)
888-206-5658, www.biocorpusa.com

Brian Rosa (Outdoor Composting Bins/Indoor Worm Bin), 888-390-8622

Gardener’s Supply Company, 802-863-1700, www.gardenerssupply.com

Garden’s Alive! Catalog (organic garden products), 812-537-8650
www.gardensalive.com

NASCO Science Catalog (Worm-Vue Wonders, Item #C1649M)
800-558-9595, www.eNASCO.com

Science Kit & Boreal Laboratories (two-way microscope, item #57889)
800-828-7777, www.sciencekit.com



RECYCLING PROGRAMS

ITW Hi-Cone (six-pack ring recycling program)
630-438-5300, www.ringleader.com

LAF Lines, Ltd. (Crayon Recycling/Crazy Crayons)
17455 Kelly Lake Rd, Carver, MN 55315
800-561-0922, www.crazycrayons.com

Ronald McDonald House (pop-top tab recycling) 622 W. Deming, Chicago IL 60614
773-348-5322, www.rmhcni.org/content.cfm/poptabs

Tyvek (recycling program for plastic mailers) 800-448-9835, www.dupont.com

*Protect and preserve your environment,
“Go Green” with Kendall County!*



**Kendall County Health Department
Office of Solid Waste Management**

811 West John Street Yorkville, IL 60560
630-553-9100, ext. 8026 • Fax 630-553-9603
www.kendallhealth.org

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