



# KANE COUNTY Recycles

2009 - 2010

KANE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

## 2009 Recycling Events

### Household Hazardous Waste *(see page 3)*

- Every Weekend - Naperville Fire Station #4
- Pickup Service - Residents of Dundee/Elgin areas

### Electronics and Books *(see page 2)* Regular Drop-off in St. Charles

Fridays & Saturdays

|            |                   |
|------------|-------------------|
| June 12-13 | Dec 11-12         |
| July 10-11 | Jan 8-9, 2010     |
| Aug 7-8    | Feb 12-13, 2010   |
| Sept 11-12 | March 12-13, 2010 |
| Oct 9-10   | April 9-10, 2010  |
| Nov 13-14  | May 7-8, 2010     |

### Used Motor Oil *(see page 6)*

August 22, 2009 -  
County Highway Garage

### For More Information:

630-208-3841 or  
[recycle@co.kane.il.us](mailto:recycle@co.kane.il.us)

## New This Year

Disposal of old medications  
*(See page 3 for details)*

## Also Inside . . .

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## Top Ten Things...

*you can do to be a better recycler.*

- 1. Recycle all the paper you can.** Even empty toilet paper rolls. If every Kane County resident recycled one more piece of paper every day, that would add up to 900 more tons recycled each year. That one piece of paper would add up to savings of 15,000 trees, 55,000 pounds of air pollution, 9.5 million kilowatt-hours of electricity, and 88,000 gallons of water.
- 2. Don't put things you can't recycle in your recycling bin.** No plastic bags, styrofoam, paper plates, toys, small appliances, window glass, drinking glasses, or ceramics.
- 3. Recycle on the go.** Save those plastic and glass bottles and aluminum cans (water, juice, iced tea, soda, etc.) and take them home for recycling.
- 4. Take Back Your Plastic Bags.** Take back grocery and produce bags, newspaper bags, and dry cleaning bags to the store. They must be clean – with no receipts, staples, etc.
- 5. Clothing and textiles.** Recycle all your old clothes, towels, bed sheets, etc. in one of the metal collection boxes located around town. Even tattered, frayed, or “holey” textiles can be recycled.
- 6. Save Your Scrap Metal.** Gutters, swing set poles, wire clothes hangers. But don't put them in your recycling bin. Find your nearest metal recycler in the phone book under “Recycling Centers”.
- 7. Household Hazardous Waste.** Dispose of old chemicals properly at one of the HHW drop-offs.
- 8. Compost your food scraps.** Set up a system in the kitchen to save your banana peels, apple cores, lettuce leaves, etc. (no meat, bones, or oily items). Throw them on your garden, or compost them.
- 9. Electronics.** Take your old televisions, computers, phones, and stereos (no speakers) to the City or County drop-offs. You can also take in old software (floppies, CDs, video tapes, and audio tapes) and books.
- 10. Teach Your Children (and Grandchildren) Well.**



# Electronic and Book Recycling Days

## Regular Drop-Off Location at:

**Kane County Circuit Clerk Building** (former Montgomery Wards)  
540 S. Randall Road, St. Charles

These Fridays and Saturdays, from 8:00 am – 12:00 noon:

|                  |                   |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| June 12-13, 2009 | Sept. 11-12, 2009 | Dec. 11-12, 2009 | March 12-13, 2010 |
| July 10-11, 2009 | Oct. 9-10, 2009   | Jan. 8-9, 2010   | April 9-10, 2010  |
| Aug. 7-8, 2009   | Nov. 13-14, 2009  | Feb. 12-13, 2010 | May 7-8, 2010     |

## Fall Collection in East Dundee

Former Santa's Village Parking Lot, Route 25, just south of Route 72  
Saturday, September 26th, 2009 from 8:00 am – 12:00 noon:

## These Items Will Be Accepted For Recycling:

### Computers and Peripherals:

(25 piece limit)

- Personal Computers • Monitors
- Mouse • Cables • Tape, Disk, CD Drives • Printers • Keyboards

### Entertainment Equipment:

- Televisions • VCRs • Camcorders
- Stereo Equipment (no speakers)
- Cameras • Game Players • Joysticks

### Other Electronic Equipment:

- Telephones • Cell Phones • Pagers
- Answering Machines • Typewriters • Calculators • Adding Machines
- Fax Machine • Copiers • Postage Meters • Microwave Ovens



### Electronic Media:

- Floppy Disks • Compact Discs (and cases) • Video and audio cassettes

Please remove all paper and recycle it with your mixed paper at home.

### Books:

- Hardbound and Paperback.

## More Info:

**630.208.3841**

- Open only to Kane County Residents and All Residents of Elgin and Aurora.
- Free of Charge
- Co-sponsored by Kane County and the cities of Aurora, Batavia, Elgin, Geneva, and St. Charles.

## How Is It Recycled?

*Each item is dis-assembled and components sorted for recycling into new raw materials.*

**Steel** and **aluminum** are sent to metal recyclers. **Plastic** housings and pieces are sent to plastic recyclers. **Cables** and **wires** are sent to a “wire stripper”, where the insulation is removed and the metal is then recycled.

**Circuit boards** are sent to a smelter where precious metals can be recovered. **Hard drives** are smashed before recycling, so any remaining data cannot be recovered.

**Glass** from cathode ray tubes (CRTs) contains high levels of lead. That glass is either used to make more CRTs or sent to a lead smelter where the lead is recovered.

**Floppy disks, compact discs, and video tapes** are sent to plastics recyclers. **Books** are shipped to a paper recycler. Bindings, hard covers, and paperbacks are used to make new corrugated boxes. Book pages are made into new paper.

## Do Not Bring

- Manuals and packing material
- Air conditioners or other appliances
- Household Hazardous Wastes

## Did You Know?

Kane County leads the State in electronics recycling. Since our program began in 2001, we have held 68 collection days, attended by 32,500 residents. We have recycled:

- 3.7 million pounds of electronics (that's 147 semi-truck loads!)
- 350,000 floppy disks, CDs, and videotapes
- 413,000 pounds of books

## Is It Safe to Leave Information on my Computer?

Most of the computers that we receive are disassembled with the metals totally melted down. A few computers are reconditioned for re-use. For these machines, the hard drives are erased using military guidelines. There has never been a case of personal data being stolen from our recycling program.

# Medication Drop-Offs

Expired and unwanted pharmaceutical drugs can now be dropped off at the following locations. Both prescription and over-the-counter drugs are accepted. Pills and capsules should be placed in re-sealable plastic bags.

## Naperville Fire Station #4

Saturday and Sunday,  
9:00 am – 2:00 pm *(see next column)*

## Fox Metro Office

682 Route 31, Oswego  
(630) 301-6820  
Monday – Friday,  
8:00 am – 5:00 pm

## Elgin Township

*Please call first*  
729 S. McLean Blvd., Elgin  
(847) 741-2045  
Monday – Friday,  
8:00 am – 4:00 pm

# Latex Paint No Longer Accepted

Latex (*water-based*) paint is not hazardous and is not accepted in our HHW programs.

Cans containing latex paint can be placed in your regular garbage, once the paint has been solidified. If there is just a small amount of paint remaining, take the lids off, and let the paint evaporate outside. For fuller cans, mix in an absorbent (*kitty litter or oil dry work well*). Then leave the lids off and place the solidified cans in your regular garbage. Empty, dry metal paint cans and lids can be placed in your recycling bin.

# Household Hazardous Waste

## 1. Regular HHW Drop-Off

### Naperville Fire Station #4

9:00 am. - 2:00 pm.

Every Saturday & Sunday *(except holidays)*  
Corner of Route 59 and Brookdale *(1/2 mile south of I-88)*

## 2. One-Day Drop-Off

### Please Note:

There WILL NOT be a drop-off day at the Kane County Fairgrounds this spring. The Illinois EPA has limited funding for these events and chose locations elsewhere in the State this spring.

## 3. Free Pick-up Service for Dundee, Elgin & Hampshire Area Residents Only

Residents with Carpentersville, Dundee, Elgin, Gilberts, Hampshire, and South Elgin mailing addresses may call the HHW Hotline at 800-449-7587 to schedule a free pickup from your home. This service is operated by Curbside, Inc., and is supported by Kane County, the City of Elgin, and the Villages of Carpentersville and South Elgin.

**Call 1-800-449-7587 to schedule a pick-up.**

All HHW Collections are free of charge.  
This is for Residential Items ONLY.

No business, institutional, industrial or agricultural waste will be accepted.

**More Info: (630) 208-3841**

## Acceptable Materials:

- Aerosol products
- Antifreeze
- Batteries – auto & household sizes
- Blacktop sealer
- Cleaning products
- Fluorescent bulbs *(tubes and swirled)*
- Gasoline
- Hobby & photo chemicals
- Lawn chemicals
- Medications *(pills and capsules)*
- Mercury *(thermostats, etc.)*
- Motor Oil
- Oil-based Paints, Stains, & Varnishes
- Pesticides
- Pool chemicals
- Propane Tanks *(fairgrounds and Naperville only)*
- Solvents



## Do Not Bring:

- Latex paint
- Ammunition, explosives or fireworks
- Biological or medical waste
- Farm machinery oil
- Fire Extinguishers
- Smoke detectors

## Co-sponsored by:

Kane County Dept. of  
Environmental Management  
Illinois EPA  
Cities of Aurora, Batavia,  
Elgin, Geneva, St. Charles,  
Village of Carpentersville and  
South Elgin

# Drop-Off Recycling Locations

These locations accept the same materials listed on page 5. Please do not leave items other than those items.

## Carpentersville Village Hall

1200 Besinger Drive  
(847) 426-3439 • 24 hours

## Virgil/Sts. Peter & Paul Church

Meredith Road • (800) 930-7321  
24 hours

## Elgin-Waste Management

(Elgin Residents Only)  
7N904 Route 25  
(800) 796-9696  
M,W,F 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.;  
Sat. 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon

# The Earth Machine™

Compost Bins are now available at:  
**University of Illinois Extension Office**

535 S. Randall Road  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
(630)584-6166

These bins are made from black recycled plastic, measure 33" tall by 33" diameter, with an 80 gallon capacity.

For more details,  
visit: [www.earthmachine.com](http://www.earthmachine.com)

Cost: \$50.00 cash or check  
(payable to Kane County Treasurer)



# How Much is Being Recycled?

## Total:

US: 33%  
Kane County 40%

## Material:

Paper 54%  
Glass 24%  
Metals 35%  
Plastics 7%  
Textiles 16%  
Food Waste 3%

## Products:

Steel/Tin Cans 64%  
Aluminum Cans 49%  
Glass Bottles & Jars 28%  
Plastic Milk Bottles 28%  
Plastic Soft Drink Bottles 37%  
Newspaper 78%  
Corrugated Boxes 74%  
Office Paper 72%  
Magazines/Mail 40%

Source: US EPA, 2007

# Recycling Q&A

## How can I get a new recycling bin?

Contact your city/Village Hall or your garbage company.

## Can I recycle shredded paper?

**Yes!** Please place the shredded paper in a PAPER grocery bag, and place the closed bag in your recycling bin.

## How can I dispose of the new compact fluorescent light bulbs?

Each of the new bulbs contains a small amount of mercury. Spent bulbs are accepted in our household hazardous waste program (see page 3). A traditional 4 foot fluorescent tube may contain 10 times the mercury found in the smaller new bulbs. All fluorescent bulbs should be handled through our HHW programs.

## Can I recycle anything plastic that has the recycling arrows on it?

**No!** The purpose of those arrows is to identify the type of plastic contained in the product. It does not mean that it is recyclable. See the list on the next page for what plastic items can be recycled.

# What You Can Recycle At Home

Here is a list of the items that are commonly accepted in residential recycling bins.  
Check with your City, Village, or garbage company for the exact list in your area.

## Paper

- Newspaper and inserts
- Magazines, catalogs, and phone books
- Office, computer, notebook, and gift wrap paper (*no metal clips, spirals, binders, foil*)
- Junk mail and envelopes (*no plastic cards foil or tyvek envelopes*)
- Chipboard - cereal, cake, shoe, gift, tissue boxes
- Cardboard boxes. Must be flattened and cut to 3' x 3'.
- Brown paper grocery bags
- Paperback books (*no hardcover books*)
- Juice cartons and boxes

## Aluminum Cans

- Please empty and rinse.
- Aluminum foil, pie plates, trays (must be cleaned)

## Steel/Tin Cans

- Soup, fruit, beans, tuna cans and lids.
- Please empty and rinse.
- Metal paint cans and lids. Must be empty and dry.
- Empty aerosol cans.
- Small cookie tins.

## Glass

- Clear, brown, green
- Please empty and rinse. Labels are OK.
- No window glass, dinnerware, ceramics, mirrors, light bulbs.

## Plastics (*look for codes on bottom of container*)

- #1 PET bottles and boxes. (*water and soda bottles, some fruit boxes*)
- #2 HDPE bottles. (*milk, juice, laundry detergent*)
- #3 PVC bottles. (*health and beauty products, cleaners*)
- #4 LDPE containers (*margarine tubs, vegetable oil, 6-pack rings*)
- #5 PP containers (*yogurt, syrup, ketchup, etc.*)
- #7 Other. Narrow neck containers only.
- Plastic buckets, such as kitty litter containers. (*5 gallon max. size, no metal handles*)

## Plastics Not Accepted:

- Bags (*should be returned to stores*)
- Film (*no plastic wraps, sandwich bags, tarps*)
- Containers for motor oil, pesticides or chemicals.
- #6 plastic – Styrofoam, polystyrene. (*packing peanuts, blocks, meat trays, egg cartons*)



## But, Don't Recycle These:

- Plastic Bags
- Styrofoam
- Paper contaminated with food (*paper plates, pizza boxes*)
- Liner bags from cereal boxes
- Children's toys
- Coffee makers or other small appliances.

# Used Motor Oil Recycling

## Saturday Drop-Off Date

**Saturday, August 22, 2009 • 8:00 am - 12:00 noon**

Kane County Highway Garage • Burlington & Empire Roads  
west of St. Charles

Used oil will be accepted at no charge. No quantity too large or too small.  
Drained oil filters will also be accepted.

### Co-Sponsors:

Kane County Dept. of Environmental Management  
Kane County Farm Bureau  
Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District

## How Much Oil Have We Recycled?

Since 1994, the County drop-off days have been used by 13,300 residents, farmers, and businesses who have recycled:

- 183,000 gallons of used motor oil
- 30,000 used oil filters

## Other Drop-Off Locations

These locations will accept up to 5 gallons of used motor oil per visit,  
during their regular businesses hours.

### Auto Zone

1017 E. Galena Blvd., Aurora • 630-236-8827  
310 N. McLean Blvd., Elgin • 847-622-7919  
835 Summit, Elgin • 847-289-9227

### Rock'N Roll Automotive

601 Route 68., Carpentersville • 847-426-0014

### Spring Hill Ford

800 Dundee Ave., East Dundee • 847-551-1027

### Valvoline Instant Oil Change

1279 N. Lake St., Aurora • 630-897-0799  
2076 Main St. (at Randall), Batavia • 630-406-7956  
1302 E. Main St., St. Charles • 630-377-5823  
7032 Huntley Road, Carpentersville • 847-783-6666

### Waste Management

7N904 Route 25, Elgin • 800-796-9696 (only M,W,F 8:00 – 3:30; Sat. 8:00 – 12)



## Motor Oil Accepted in Batavia & St. Charles

Batavia and St. Charles city residents can now recycle their used motor oil by placing it at the curb, where it will be collected with the other recyclables. No gasoline, oil/gas mixtures, or antifreeze will be accepted.

The used oil containers should be placed at the curb separate from, but next to, the recycling bin so it will be easily identified.

The used oil must be contained in sealed plastic containers not to exceed one gallon, such as milk jugs or liquid laundry detergent bottles. Lids must be securely fastened with no tin foil, plastic, etc. allowed as lids.

## What Happens to the Oil and Filters?

The used oil is filtered and sold to steel mills, where it is blended with fuel oil and used to heat their furnaces. The oil filters are crushed, baled, and recycled with other non-ferrous metals

**NOTE:** Used motor oil is also accepted in the household hazardous waste programs listed on page three.

### For More Information:

630-208-3841 or  
recycle@co.kane.il.us

# Banned From The Landfill.

The following materials are banned from all landfills in Illinois

**Appliances.** Arrangements for the pick up, removal of refrigerants, and recycling of large household appliances have been made by all towns and waste haulers. Call your town or garbage company for details.

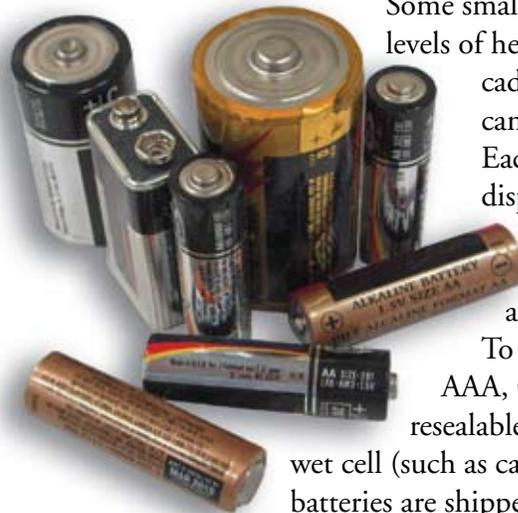
**Auto Batteries.** All retailers and repair shops that sell batteries are required to take the batteries they replace. In addition, some parts stores and scrap yards will buy old batteries. Call around.

**Landscape Waste.** Collection and central composting programs have been established by all towns and waste haulers. For a detailed brochure on how to properly set up and manage a backyard compost pile, call the Kane County Recycling Office at 630-208-3841.

**Tires.** Most tire retailers will accept old tires for a small fee, usually about \$2.00 each for passenger car tires. If you have a lot of tires, call Tire Grinders Inc. at 815-722-7100 for collection and recycling information.

**Used Motor Oil.** See Page 6 for disposal information.

# Household Battery Recycling



Some small household batteries contain high levels of heavy metals, including cadmium, lead and mercury, which can contaminate the environment. Each year, Kane County households dispose almost 200,000 pounds of these batteries.

Small dry cell batteries are accepted at the following locations.

To recycle, place your used A, AA, AAA, C, D, and 9 volt batteries in resealable plastic bags. DO NOT include wet cell (such as car, truck and boat) batteries. The batteries are shipped to a Michigan company where they are sorted. Usable metals are recovered from most of them, with the residue shipped to a hazardous waste disposal site.

## Drop-Off Locations:

### Elgin Township Highway Garage

McLean Blvd., South Elgin  
open 24 hours

### Elgin Fire Station #2

Big Timber Road and Route 31  
open 24 hours

### Pingree Grove Fire Station

39W169 Plank Road  
open 24 hours

### South Elgin Fire Station

Hopps and Stevens Roads  
open 24 hours

## Curbside Battery Collection:

*(Place bagged batteries on the ground next to your recycling bin.)*

City of Aurora  
City of Batavia  
Village of Elburn  
City of Elgin

City of Geneva  
Village of Hampshire  
Village of Maple Park

Village of North Aurora  
City of St. Charles  
Village of Sugar Grove

## What About Lead-Acid Batteries?

Larger lead-acid batteries from autos, boats, sump pumps, and the like may be taken to any store that sells these batteries. The store will accept them for free or a small charge. These batteries are totally recycled including the lead plates, battery acid, and plastic case.

# Re-Use Center for Building Materials

## ReStore

800 North State St., Elgin • (Route 31, 1 mile south of I-90)  
(847) 742-9905 • [www.restoreelgin.org](http://www.restoreelgin.org)

**Sponsor:** Habitat for Humanity of Northern Fox Valley

**Hours:** Wednesday – Friday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm;

Saturday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm;

Closed Sunday – Tuesday



## How It Works

**Donate:** Homeowners and contractors can donate surplus items (tax deductible), reducing the amount of building materials that would otherwise go to landfills. Call first before delivering items that may not be acceptable.

**Purchase:** This center sells surplus or gently used building materials at significant savings to the general public. Proceeds from sales support the mission of the organization.

**Why?** Kane County produces more than 80,000 tons of construction waste each year. This program now provides a alternative to disposal.

## Acceptable Materials:

**Cabinets:** new and used, with all parts, and not damaged

**Plumbing:** usable fixtures, parts, supplies

**Electrical:** usable fixtures, parts, supplies

**Windows:** complete units

**Doors:** (no broken glass)

**Flooring:** wood, ceramic, vinyl, carpet (new only)

**Lumber:** at least 6' in length

**Millwork/Trim:** wood casing and base, vinyl base

**Hardware:** knobs, hinges, locks, cabinet pulls, nails, nuts, bolts, screws

## Items That CANNOT Be Accepted:

- Used toilets or tub surrounds
- Paint, stain, or varnish
- Blinds or wallpaper
- Items that are broken or with missing parts
- Carpet Pad
- Used carpet or vinyl flooring
- Pieces under 6' of lumber, drywall, etc.

## Does Your Business Recycle?

More than 2,000 Kane County businesses currently recycle an average of 1,300 pounds of material each month – or 8 tons of recyclables per year.

Most businesses arrange for recycling through their existing garbage company. If you have large quantities of a recyclable such as cardboard or metals, you may want to work directly with a recycling company.

Recycling service typically costs more than just garbage service, because you have an additional dumpster and an additional truck serving your location. However, you can often offset the extra cost of recycling by reducing your garbage service (smaller dumpsters or less-frequent service). This approach works because you'll have less garbage now that you're recycling!

Garbage companies can provide a variety of different sizes of containers for recycling – from 90 gallon totes to 30 cubic yard compactors. Effective employee education programs (and signage) are essential for your recycling efforts to work.



This publication has been produced by the Kane County Division of Environmental Management. All information in this publication is believed to be accurate and up-to-date. Any omissions are unintentional. Additions, updates, or corrections should be referred to the Kane County Recycling Office at

**(630) 208-3841**

[recycle@co.kane.il.us](mailto:recycle@co.kane.il.us)

**This Guide is printed on  
recycled paper.**