



# KANE COUNTY Recycles

2010 - 2011

KANE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

## 2010 Recycling Events

### Household Hazardous Waste

(see page 5)

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

### Electronics and Books Regular Drop-off in St. Charles

(see page 4)

Fridays & Saturdays

June 11-12	Dec 10-11
July 9-10	Jan 7-8, 2011
Aug 6-7	Feb 11-12, 2011
Sept 10-11	March 11-12, 2011
Oct 8-9	April 8-9, 2011
Nov 12-13	May 6-7, 2011

### Used Motor Oil

(see page 6)

August 28, 2010 - 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 5 for details)

## Also Inside . . .

What You Can Recycle..... pg. 3  
 Recycle Batteries..... pg. 7  
 Building Material Re-use..... pg. 8

## Recycling Works!

**W**e recycle about 40% of all of our solid waste in Kane County, or about 600 pounds per person each year. But 900 pounds per person still go to landfills.

Since the modern era of recycling began 20 years ago in 1990, recycling has become a way of life in Kane County. Here are some interesting facts:

- On each pickup day, an average of 80% of Kane County homes put out their recycling bin (as high as 95% in some towns).
- The average home recycles 80 pounds of material each month.
- 94% of all items placed in recycling bins actually get recycled into new products. Only 6% are “mistakes” (plastic bags, styrofoam, kids’ toys, etc.)
- Only 1/3 of all yard waste (brush, leaves, trimmings) is put out for collection. The rest is managed on-site (mulch, compost, grass left on lawn)
- More than 2,000 local businesses each recycle an average of 20,000 pounds per year.



## Benefits of Recycling

- **Reduce the Need for Landfills**  
Recycling in Illinois over the past 18 years has eliminated the need for 13 new landfills, saving more than 2,300 acres of land from becoming permanent dumping grounds for our garbage.
- **Conserve Resources**  
Paper recycling in Kane County alone saves the equivalent of 70,000 trees each year.  
Our recycling also results in energy savings of more than 3 trillion BTUs, equal to more than 600,000 barrels of oil.
- **Reduce Pollution**  
Recycling reduces the production of greenhouse gases equal to the emissions produced by more than 50,000 cars.  
Recycling in Kane County also eliminates more than 5,000 tons of air pollutants and 800 tons of water pollution each year.

# Drop-Off Recycling Locations

These locations accept the same materials listed on page 3. 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

## Drop-off Center for Styrofoam now open:

### Where:

Dart Container Corp.  
310 Evergreen Drive, North Aurora

### Hours:

Anytime (bins by main entrance)

### What They Accept:

- Foam packing blocks
- Food containers  
(cups, plates, fast-food sandwich boxes)

### Do Not Bring:

- Straws, cups lids, paper
- Packing peanuts

### More Info:

**(630) 896-4631**

## Don't Forget to Recycle

- **Plastic Bags** – Take back grocery, produce, newspaper, and dry cleaning bags (remove receipts) to any Dominick's, Jewel, or Wal-Mart store. 100 billion plastic grocery bags are used in the U.S. each year, or about 333 per person. Only about 4% are currently recycled.
- **Used Clothing and Textiles** – Call your favorite charity or look for one of the red metal boxes from "U'SAgain" located around the County. Call (800) 604-9533 for the location nearest you. Recycle worn-out and torn clothing too.
- **Scrap Metal**, such as pipes, gutters, swing sets, etc. – take it to a metal recycling center (look in the phone book under "Recycling Centers").
- **Usable dishes, small appliances, lamps, other home furnishings** – look in your yellow pages under Resale Stores. Goodwill Industries now has donation centers on Randall Road in Batavia and South Elgin.

## 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. The small, new-style bulbs may be taken to any Ace Hardware or the lighting dept. of any Home Depot store for recycling.

The old-style fluorescent tubes contains more mercury than the new types and should be handled through our HHW program (see page 5).

### *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.

# 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 11-12, 2010	Sept. 10-11, 2010	Dec. 10-11, 2010	March 11-12, 2011
July 9-10, 2010	Oct. 8-9, 2010	Jan. 9-10, 2011	April 8-9, 2011
Aug. 13-14, 2010	Nov. 12-13, 2010	Feb. 11-12, 2011	May 13-14, 2011

## 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.

## 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.

## Changes Coming!

A new state law bans computers and televisions from disposal in Illinois landfills, beginning in January 2012. The Electronic Products Recycling and Reuse Act also requires computer and television manufacturers to take responsibility for recycling of the obsolete equipment.

Residents will be able to recycle their items at no charge at new locations, yet to be determined. Businesses will have to engage the services of a recycling company to properly recycle their covered electronics.

More information will be provided in 2011 as we get closer to the effective date of this new law.

## How Is It Recycled?

*Each item is dis-assembled.*

**The metals, plastic, glass, and other components** are sorted and shipped off to be melted down and made into new products.

**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.

## 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.

## 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 84 collection days, attended by 44,500 residents. We have recycled:

- 5.1 million pounds of electronics (that's 200 semi-truck loads!)
- 500,000 floppy disks, CDs, and videotapes
- 530,000 pounds of books

## 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

## 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.

## Did You Know?

- 85% of all the HHW collected is recycled or re-used in some manner. Pesticides and medications are destroyed in special high-temperature incinerators.
- Since 1992, some 57,000 Kane County residents have attended an HHW collection event, bringing in more than 5 million pounds of toxics for proper disposal

# 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. 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.**

### 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 (*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

## 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**

# Used Motor Oil Recycling

## Saturday Drop-Off Date

Saturday, August 28, 2010 • 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 13,500 residents, farmers, and businesses who have recycled:

- 187,000 gallons of used motor oil
- 31,000 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.

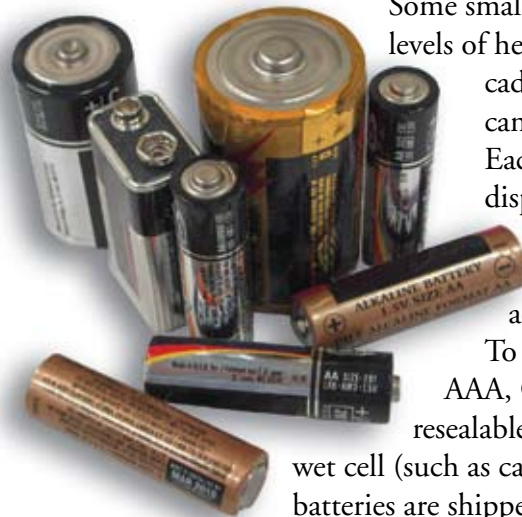
**Auto Batteries.** All retailers and repair shops that sell batteries are required to take the batteries they replace. In addition, some parts stores and scrap yards will buy old batteries. Call around.

**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 Treadstone Tire Recyclers at 815-726-4644 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:

*(In most towns, place bagged batteries on the ground next to your recycling bin.  
In towns that use a large wheeled recycling cart, place bagged batteries on top of your recycling cart)*

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.**