



## **Go Green Wilmette Recycling Resource Guide For Households and Businesses February 2019**

This guide provides information about how to recycle various items in the Wilmette area most efficiently. The easiest way to recycle many items is through our regular curbside recycling pick-up program. Go to [www.wilmette.com/](http://www.wilmette.com/) for details of the village recycling program (After reaching the site, type “Recycling Program” in the search bar). Plastic bags and paint are not part of the regular pick-up program. See inside this guide for ideas for recycling these and many other items – locally! Visit [gogreenwilmette.org/](http://gogreenwilmette.org/) for more information about GGW and our scheduled events.

### **Appliances**

Abt Electronics (1200 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, 847-967-8830) accepts large and small appliances, all TVs, computers, air conditioners, large and small electronics, including calculators, cameras, power tools and cords, shredders, faxes, and typewriters. Small appliances and electronics are free; see website for fee structure for TVs and per pound charge for *large* quantities of computers, small appliances and electronics: [www.abt.com/help/green-program](http://www.abt.com/help/green-program). Park at Customer Pick Up area on south side of building and notify person behind the counter. Abt staff can help unload the items. Call for pickup (\$99 or free with a new installation). For refrigerators, Abt partners with ComEd, an EPA-approved business that covers refrigerants. Rebates for responsibly recycled appliances may be available: [www.abt.com/rebates/comed-rebates](http://www.abt.com/rebates/comed-rebates).

Advanced Disposal will pick up old appliances on Wednesdays. Phone 24 hours in advance (847-272-4145) to let them know you will put item out for pick up. They will also pick up white construction materials and large, bulky items for no charge.

Best Buy (1072 Willow Rd., Northbrook, 847-205-2305) now accepts stick vacuums, canister, upright and robot vacuums, curling irons, blow dryers and fans (limit: 3 items per visit). They will accept up to two computer monitors, and up to two TV's if they are tube sets smaller than 32"; flat panel (LCD, Plasma or LED) TVs smaller than 50", or portable TVs, for a charge of \$25 each. Not accepted: TVs not fitting the previous categories or business/organization drop offs ([www.bestbuy.com/recycle](http://www.bestbuy.com/recycle)). For further information click on icon to see what items they do and do not take.

ComEd will recycle your working refrigerator or freezer. See <https://www.comed.com/WaysToSave/ForYourHome/Pages/Recycling.aspx> or call 855-433-2700.

Goodwill (923 Ridge Rd., Wilmette, 847-920-5303) takes small appliances, stereos, working flat screen HDTVs, (no microwaves or rear-projection TVs) and computers in nonworking or working condition. They do not take large appliances or CRTs, only flat screen monitors. Mon.-Fri., 9 – 7; Sat.-Sun., 9 - 6. In addition, Goodwill-Evanston and Northbrook take larger items, like furniture (see <https://www.amazinggoodwill.com/donating/donor-guidelines>). The Goodwill Store and Donation Center, 1916B Dempster, Evanston is a drive-through on the southwest side of the store; make donations Mon.-Sat., 9 – 9; Sun., 10 - 8. No pickups.

Salvation Army (4335 Oakton St., Skokie; for pickups, call 1-800-SA-TRUCK) accepts working appliances of any size. Mon.-Sat., 9 - 9; Sun., 1 - 5. They will take unstained mattresses and clean, upholstered furniture. They do not take cribs, play seats, car seats, children's beds, wheel chairs, walkers, toilet seats, medical devices, or medical beds.

### **Appliance Repairs**

CoreCentric Solutions (<http://corecentricsolutions.com/>) remanufactures components for non-working appliances. Call 866-737-2244 for an assessment or email them at [cs@corecentricusa.com](mailto:cs@corecentricusa.com).

### **Athletic Shoes Only (No dress shoes, boots or sandals—for dress shoes and sandals, see Clothes)**

The Runner's Edge, 1515 Sheridan Rd., Wilmette (next to Starbucks, 847-853-8531), in conjunction with Great Lakes Adaptive Sports Association (<https://www.glasa.org>), recycles clean, lightly used, wearable shoes for distribution among youth and adults with physical and visual disabilities.

### **Athletic/Soccer Shoes**

Peacepassers (<http://peacepassers.org/>) collects gently-used soccer equipment - balls, shoes, shin guards, gloves, team sets of past years' jerseys - and distributes it to communities in need around the world. Check website or contact [peacepassersinfo@gmail.com](mailto:peacepassersinfo@gmail.com) for information on a shipment location near you.

### **Automobiles**

Habitat for Humanity (<http://www.habitat.org/carsforhomes>, 877-277-4344), will take your donated car and sell it, using the proceeds to build a Habitat home.

### **Batteries – Household (Tape ends of rechargeable batteries to prevent igniting)**

The Illinois EPA has determined that single-use, non-rechargeable alkaline batteries (AAA, AA, C, D, 6V, 9V, etc.) are not hazardous and can be thrown into normal household waste collections.

Rechargeable batteries are not accepted in Wilmette's solid waste collection, but they can be recycled at many retailers as shown below (tape ends.)

Button or coin cell batteries (the kind found in watches, hearing aids and small electronics **are not rechargeable or recyclable, but should not be thrown in the trash**). Lambrecht's Jewelers (1131 Central Ave., Wilmette 847-251-3264) will accept button cell batteries for recycling, with the exception of batteries that have "Lithium" printed on them. Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., 9 - 5:30; Wed., 9 - 12; Sat., 9 - 5.

Abt Electronics (1200 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, 847-967-8830) accepts computer battery backup systems that no longer work. (See Abt under **Appliances**).

Best Buy (1072 Willow Rd., Northbrook, 847-205-2305) recycles battery backup systems and rechargeable

batteries (unless they are subject to a CPSC recall) (tape ends).

Home Depot stores (2201 Oakton, Evanston, 847-733-9200; 2850 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, 847-400-5390) take rechargeable batteries (tape ends), as well as cell phones (remove SIM card first) and CFL Light Bulbs.

Lowes Home Improvement stores (1000 Willow Rd., Northbrook, 847-418-4540) take rechargeable batteries (tape ends), as well as shopping bags, cell phones (remove SIM card first) and CFL light bulbs.

Millen Hardware (1219 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, 847-251-3060) takes rechargeable batteries for recycling (tape ends). (See **Light Bulbs – CFL and Fluorescent** and **Paint** for more items.)

Weiss Ace Hardware (1560 Waukegan Rd., Glenview, 847-724-3444) accepts rechargeable batteries at no charge. Accepts all CFL light bulbs - \$.50 each. Also latex and oil-based paint for a fee. (See **Light Bulbs – CFL and Fluorescent** and **Paint** for more items.)

### **Batteries - Car**

Abt Electronics (1200 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, 847-967-8830) will accept 12V car and marine batteries and 12V batteries with F2 terminals only. See Abt Electronics under **Appliances** for drop off details and hours.

Wilmette Auto Care (803 Green Bay Rd., Wilmette, 847-256-7766) accepts car batteries, scrap metal hub caps from cars, old gasoline, antifreeze, and motor oil. They will also accept old tires, for a fee.

### **Bicycle Tires**

The Recyclery (7628 N Paulina St., Chicago, 773-262-5900, <http://therecyclery.org/>) takes reusable tubes, tires and other things bike related (except helmets). Must phone first.

### **Bicycles**

Green Bay Cycles (999 Green Bay Rd., Winnetka, 847-446-7433) accepts used adult and children's bikes for donation to Working Bikes (see. <https://www.workingbikes.org/>).

Pedal Power conducts an annual drive, usually in the Fall, of used children's bicycles in working condition. See <http://gopedalpower.com/locations/> for further information.

RRB Cycles (562 Green Bay Rd., Kenilworth, 847-251-7878) accepts adult and children's bikes for donation to Working Bikes (see <https://www.workingbikes.org/>).

Recyclery (7628 N. Paulina, Chicago, 773-262-5900 or <http://therecyclery.org/>) is a nonprofit that seeks to build community through restoration of donated and discarded bicycles and helps children and adults learn bicycle maintenance and earn their own bike. Phone first.

Wilmette Bicycle and Sport Shop (605 Green Bay Rd., Wilmette, 847-251-1404) accepts used bicycles for a discount towards a new bicycle from mid-April through late September.

### **Books**

Bernie's Book Bank in Lake Forest donates new and gently used books to at-risk youth (Pre-k through 6th grade) in Chicagoland. They offer two local drop-off locations: Morning Glory Flower Shop, 1135½ Central Ave.; and North Shore Community Bank & Trust, 1145 Wilmette Ave.

Children's Book Project (<http://www.childrensbookproject.org/>) accepts children's books.

Friends of the Wilmette Public Library accepts gently-used books for Books Down Under at the receiving door at the northeast corner of the building. Proceeds fund special programs. See <https://www.wilmettelibrary.info/about/about-us/Friends> for acceptable book and some media donations.

Homeless shelters. Call the shelter before dropping off to make sure they can use them. See **Additional Recycling Resources** on last page of this document for shelter links.

Open Books (<https://www.open-books.org/>) accepts gently-used children's books as well as CDs and DVDs

from a smoke-free environment. Books will be distributed to children through Chicago area schools and sold in their stores to help fund literacy programs in Chicago. No textbooks, please. Pick up service is available; drop off sites are listed on website.

### **Bottle Caps (Plastic)**

The recycling industry guidance recommends that plastic bottles be emptied and decompressed, and bottle caps be screwed back on the bottle before placing in your residential recycling bin. The reason recyclers want the caps back on the bottles is to keep them from being flattened during transportation. Laser and optical sorting technology at the sorting facilities will send a flattened bottle into the paper fiber side instead of the plastic side. Loose plastic bottle caps and all other plastic caps should go in your regular garbage container.

### **CDs, DVDs, and VHS tapes**

To recycle CDs, DVDs, and cases, go to <http://www.cdrecyclingcenter.org/>. They recycle large quantities for free. They also recycle extension cords, chargers, computer cables, Christmas lights and small electronics. Disks and all paper labels should be separated from the case.

Game Stop (1865 Tower Dr., Glenview, 847-998-8186) buys used games for credit towards another purchase. See <https://www.gamestop.com/> for other locations.

Open Books (<https://www.open-books.org/>) takes gently-used children's CDs and DVDs (see **Books**).

OSDD (Opportunity Secure Document Destruction), a division of Glenkirk (3660 Commercial Ave., Northbrook, 847-831-9400), provides services to adults with disabilities. They recycle CDs, DVDs, audio and video tapes, as well as cases (separate paper from cases). Call for more information or see <https://www.osddshred.com/>. Open drop off options are Wed. and Fri., 9 - 12 or by appointment. They also take hard drives, phones, microfiche and film but charge for each piece.

Wilmette Public Library will take CDs and DVDs in good working condition to be sold in the Books Down Under store (see **Books**).

### **Cardboard Boxes**

If your workplace accrues at least 5,000 good quality used cardboard shipping boxes, or at least 100 used gaylord totes, you may be able to sell them for more than recycling rates. Contact UsedCardboardBoxes at <https://usedcardboardboxes.com/> or call 1-888-BOXES-88 for more information.

To recycle a smaller number of cardboard boxes or packing materials, use <https://www.freecycle.org/> and list them in your area. People will contact you and make arrangements to get them from you.

### **Carpet and Padding**

Flor sells carpet tiles that it produces from recycled material and will take old carpet tiles to recycle into new carpet tiles. See: <https://www.flor.com/responsible>, or call: 866-952-4093.

K. Hoving Recycling and Disposal (2300 Carlson Road, Northbrook) accepts carpet and padding. Charge is \$70 for up to one ton plus a \$1 environmental fee each time you drop off. Hours are Mon.-Fri., 6 - 4; Sat. 6 - 12.

### **Carpet Padding Only**

Carpet Cushions and Supplies (3423 N Drake, Chicago, 773-267-7327 <http://www.carpetcushions.com/>) recycles padding only.

### **Catalogs and Junk Mail**

To reduce the junk mail and number of catalogs you receive (and to be kind to your mailman!), go to <https://www.catalogchoice.org/> to request that your name be removed from the mass catalog mailing lists. The online process takes about 20 minutes to complete. Repeat it about once a year to stay off the lists.

### **Clothes (Wearable)**

Dress for Success (312-527-0925 or <https://www.dressforsuccess.org/>), accepts wearable women's business clothing for low-income women as they search for jobs. Drop-off is at 70 E Lake Street, Suite 900, Chicago, on

Mon., Wed. and Fri., 10 - 12 and 1 - 4; also the second Saturday of the month, 10 - 2.

Goodwill (923 Ridge Rd., 847-920-5303) accepts wearable clothes. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9 - 7 and Sat.-Sun., 9 - 6.

Salvation Army (4335 Oakton St., Skokie, 847-866-9770; for pickups, 1-800-SA-TRUCK) accepts clothing. Hours are Mon.-Sat., 9 - 9. (Also see **Furniture**.)

Winnetka Congregational Church (847-446-0575) collects clothing, toys, miscellaneous household items, furniture, etc. 7 days a week (9 - 4) behind the Winnetka Community House, 620 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka (go around corner to Pine St). No large appliances accepted. Check website to see what items are not accepted. Donated furniture can be picked up on Fridays (<https://wccrummage.com>).

Woman's Club of Evanston sponsors a drive each Spring for collecting new or nearly-new prom dresses for the Dreams Delivered Prom Boutique April 14-17, 2019. Dresses can be dropped off between February 4 - March 22, 2019, Mon.-Fri., 9 - 4 at 1702 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Closer to the date, other sites will also take dresses (see website for more information). This program makes going to the prom more affordable for those who might not be able to attend otherwise (<http://wcofe.org/>); click on Premier Events, then Dreams Delivered.

YWCA Shop for Good, Women's Resale Boutique (formerly Encore and More), (1107 Central Ave., Wilmette, 847-864-8445) accepts good quality, new and gently-used clothing, outerwear, shoes, boots, purses, jewelry and accessories. For details see: <https://www.ywca-ens.org/encore-more>. Tues.- Thurs., 12 - 5; Fri., 10 - 6; and Sat., 10 - 5. Proceeds benefit the YWCA.

### **Clothes (Unwearable)**

Goodwill (see **Clothes** above) takes unwearable items for recycling.

The Recyclery (7628 N Paulina, 773-262-5900), will take unwearable t-shirts (100% cotton or 50/50). For other items, contact your local animal shelter to see if they have an interest.

Salvation Army (4335 Oakton St., Skokie) takes unwearable items, bales them and sells them to outsourcers for use in the textile industry. They must be clean and free of mold and mildew.

**Composting/Organic Waste Disposal (Keeps 35% of Garbage from Landfill)** See [www.howtocompost.org](http://www.howtocompost.org) for information about composting. To purchase composting equipment and a wide variety of other ecologically sound products, visit your local home improvement store, such as Home Depot or Lowes.

Collective Resource will collect your food scraps from your home, in a provided 5-gallon closed bucket. Cost is \$10.50 for a once weekly pickup; \$15.50 for bi-weekly pickup. Multi-unit buildings and restaurants can get 32-gallon totes (call for pricing). For details, call 847-733-7665, or go to <https://collectiveresource.us/> to sign up.

### **Computers and Electronics**

Abt Electronics accepts computers and electronics, including calculators, cameras, power tools and cords, shredders, faxes and typewriters at no charge. Fees will apply to CRT monitors, TV's and large quantities of computers, small appliances and electronics. Park at Customer Pick Up area and notify the person behind the counter. See website for fee structure for CRT monitors and TVs, as well as the per pound charges for *large* quantities of computers, small appliances and electronics. Hours are Mon.-Fri., 9 - 9; Sat., 9 - 7:30; Sun., 10:30 - 6:30. ([https://www.abt.com/mobile\\_pages/help/green-program](https://www.abt.com/mobile_pages/help/green-program)).

Best Buy (1072 Willow Rd., Northbrook, 847-205-2305) accepts laptops, sound systems, and some household electronics. See <https://www.bestbuy.com/recycle> and click on applicable icon for guidelines of what can and cannot be dropped off. Also accepts all sizes of rechargeable household batteries (tape ends) except car batteries.

FreeGeek Chicago NFP (3411 W. Diversey Ave., Chicago, 773-342-6205) accepts all items listed on their Donate Page (<http://www.freegeekchicago.org/donate>) and provides the donor with a receipt for tax purposes. FreeGeek provides training and low- and no-cost computing to the economically disadvantaged and not-for profits. Call for further details. Hours of drop off are Wed.-Sun., 11 - 5.

Goodwill takes working and nonworking computers (see **Appliances**).

GreenDisk (800-305-DISK or <https://greendisk.com>) takes up to 25 lbs. for \$11.95 (.45 for each additional lb.), in your own box: CDs, jewel cases, DVDs, DVD cases, audio and video tapes, cell phones (remove SIM card), hard drives, small electronics, pagers, rechargeable batteries (tape ends), PDAs, ink/toner cartridges (put in a Ziplock bag to prevent leakage). See website for larger shipment rates.

SWANCC (<https://swancc.org/>) has occasional free drop off days *for SWANCC residents only* (not businesses). For additional acceptable items, phone SWANCC (847-724-9205) or check their web site. There is a limit of seven (7) items that residents can bring. <https://www.swancc.org/programs/electronics-recycling>. Also see handout for shorter list of materials accepted in 2019. They no longer do pickups. The closest drop off is at the Glenview Transfer Station, 3 Providence Way, Des Plaines (across from Maryville Academy) on Sat., 9 - 11:30 year round.

Technology for Humanity (<http://technologyforhumanity.org/>) takes multiple working computers less than eight years old. They are a charity that provides computers for underserved communities and people with disabilities, as well as for schools.

The Village of Wilmette (<https://www.wilmette.com/>) collects **small electronics** (such as cameras, cell phones, radar detectors, GPS systems, etc.) in a box located by the east entrance to the Village Hall. **Larger electronic items and computers** items should be taken to Wilmette Public Works' permanent 24-hour drop-off site at 711 Laramie Avenue in the south driveway. See <https://www.wilmette.com/green-initiatives/recycling/electronics-recycling/> for a list of everything that is accepted.

Winnetka Public Works (1390 Willow Rd.) has free residential electronics drop off (including TVs and monitors) at the WPW building on Willow Road Thurs., 1 - 3. Large electronics drop off is closed from November 15 – April 2019. Small electronics can be dropped off all year long in the front vestibule. This is a SWANCC program for residents that live in a SWANCC community (no businesses, schools or institutions). For further information: <https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/departments/public-works/refuse-and-recycling/electronic-recycling-program/>.

### **Construction and Remodeling Disposables**

Earth Stone Midwest (4619 N. 25th Ave., Schiller Park, <http://www.earthstonemidwest.com/>, 847-671-3000, ask for Costas) is a LEED-certified company that uses post-consumer stone and granite to create new materials that are 100% recycled. Pavers are used as walkways, patios, driveways and floors as well as decorative cladding. Interior applications include backsplashes, fireplaces and floor tiles. Call to see if they have a current drop-off site that is local. (A credit can be given for pavers if you drop off old materials that are approved for being recyclable.) They are open Mon.-Fri., 8:30 - 5.

Evanston ReBuilding Warehouse (2101 Dempster St., Evanston, 847-864-9246, <https://www.evanstonrebuildingwarehouse.org/>) promotes reduction of construction waste in landfills. They resell donations of construction materials, hardware, fixtures and more at a nominal cost. Their hours are Tues.-Sat., 10 - 5. They also offer job training programs for individuals who want to get, and keep, jobs in deconstruction, home repair, and/or renovation and constructions fields.

Habitat for Humanity (847-249-3160, <http://www.chicagolandhabitat.org>) picks up larger items like appliances and cabinets. The closest drop off is in Gurnee. They accept donations Tues., 12 - 5, Wed-Fri., 10 - 5 and Sat., 10 - 4; all donations must be preapproved. Call for details on acceptable items. Their contact information is [donations@habitatilc.org](mailto:donations@habitatilc.org). They do not take televisions or electronics. RESTORE (Habitat for Humanity store, 6040 N Pulaski, Chicago, 773-539-6040) accepts materials such as tile and paneling, if enough for a small project. Hours of drop off are Wed.-Sun., 10 - 6. Call or email ([info@restorechicago.org](mailto:info@restorechicago.org)) to see what they will accept.

Little Green Kitchens ([www.littlegreenkitchens.com](http://www.littlegreenkitchens.com)) will sell your existing kitchen cabinets if in good condition. You can also shop on their website to search for cabinets that have been previously used but still in good condition.

### **Contact Lenses**

Wilmette Eye Care (1125 Greenleaf Ave., 224-408-2302, <https://www.wilmetteeyecare.com/>) Mon., Wed., 10 -7; Tues., Thurs., 10 - 6; Fri 10 - 5; Sat. 11 – 4, accepts contact lenses, foil and blister packs.

### **Cork (Natural)**

Chicago Botanic Garden (1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, 847-835-5440) has a designated bin for depositing corks located in the Visitor Center Café.

Good Grapes (821 Chestnut, Winnetka, 837-242-9800) accepts corks for recycling. Tues.-Sat., 12 - 8; Sun 12 - 5. Call to confirm drop off hours.

### **Cork (Plastic)**

Plastic corks are hard to recycle and can be used instead of Styrofoam popcorn as filler in plant containers.

### **Document Destruction**

Office Depot (2722 Green Bay Rd., Evanston, 847-475-2571) Mon.-Fri., 8 am - 9 pm; Sat., 9 - 8, Sun., 10 - 6, offers a reasonable rate to securely destroy documents. You can bring up to 15 lbs. for immediate destruction, while you wait, at a rate of \$2.49/lb. For more than 15 lbs., they offer a secure holding space that, when full, is retrieved by the Iron Mountain company at the rate of \$0.99/lb.

OSDD (Opportunity Secure Document Destruction), is a division of Glenkirk (3504 Commercial Ave., Northbrook, 847-831-9400) which provides government-secure (NAID certified) document destruction services. Call for more information or see <https://www.osddshred.com/>. Open drop off is on Wed. and Fri., 9 - 12 or other times by appointment. They also take hard drives, phones, microfiche and film but charge for each piece. See website for fees involved. (See **CDs, DVDs and VHS tapes**.)

SWANCC (<https://swancc.org/>, Programs tab) posts a schedule in April each year of document destruction events that run from April through October for SWANCC member communities.

### **Drugs – Prescription and OTC**

Wilmette Police Department, (710 Ridge Rd., 24/7) accepts prescription and OTC medications. Black out your name on the drug bottle(s); drop in the green mailbox on your left. No Sharps.

Wilmette Fire Station (1304 Lake Ave., Mon.-Fri.) accepts prescription and OTC medications as well as sharps. Again, black out your name on the drug bottle(s). Sharps should be delivered in a sealed container. Mon.-Fri.

### **Exercise Videos**

To recycle your exercise videos, try <http://www.craigslist.org> or <http://www.freecycle.org>, or see OSDD entry under **CDs, DVDs and VHS tapes** above.

### **Eyeglasses (see also Contact Lenses)**

Pearle Vision (2305 Willow Rd., Glenview, 847-832-9690) and Professional Eye Care (3223 Lake Ave., Ste. 14C, Wilmette, 847-256-8100), accept used eyewear.

Wilmette and Kenilworth Post Offices also collect used eyeglasses.

### **Fire Extinguishers: Rechargeable or Non-Refillable Cylinders (NRCs)**

Chicago Household Chemicals & Computer Recycling Facility (1150 N. North Branch St., Chicago) accepts small fire extinguishers and small NRC's. For hours and details see: <https://www.swancc.org/fire-extinguishers>.

Henricksen's Fire & Safety (563 N Wolf Rd., Wheeling, 847-459-7877) will recycle your old fire extinguisher for \$4. Hours of operation are Mon.-Fri., 7:30 - 3:30.

U.S. Fire & Safety Equipment Company (2412 Millennium Drive, Elgin, 773-763-4422) recharges fire extinguishers and accepts NRC's for \$3. Hours are Mon.-Fri., 7 - 5.

### **Foam Packing Peanuts (See Styrofoam Peanuts)**

### **Furniture**

Amvets (<http://amvetspickup.com/>) will pick up a wide variety of furnishings, clothing, tools and more. Go to website to schedule a pick up.

Salvation Army (4335 Oakton St., Skokie, 847-866-9770; for pickups, 1-800-SA-TRUCK). Mon.-Sat., 9 - 9. Accepts furniture as long as it is free of rips, tears, stains, soil, mold, mildew, scratches and pet hair. In most cases, furniture will need to be put out at the curb and will not be retrieved from inside the home (see also **Clothing**).

### **Hazardous Chemical Waste**

Drop off hazardous chemical waste products at 1150 N North Branch Street, Chicago, Tues. 7 - noon, or Thurs. 2 - 7, and the first Saturday of each month from 8 - 3. They also accept propane tanks and electronics (including computers *but not TVs from non-city residents*). Oil-based paint is the **ONLY** paint accepted. Contact IEPA's Waste Reduction Unit at 217-785-5604, regarding one-day and long-term collections or go to <https://epa.illinois.gov/>. Click on the box labeled "Citizens" followed by the box labeled "Land Pollution and Waste Disposal," then "Household Hazardous Waste."

### **Holiday Lights**

Wilmette holds an annual year-end collection at Wilmette Public Works, 711 Laramie Ave. See <https://www.wilmette.com/2018/12/21/recycling-and-disposing-of-holiday-items/>. They can also be dropped off at Millen Hardware Store (1219 Wilmette Ave.) during regular store hours as well as at Winnetka Public Works (1390 Willow Rd., Winnetka) all year, weekdays 8:30 - 5. See **Computers and Electronics** for more information.

### **Ink and Toner Cartridges**

Central School (910 Central Ave.) has a recycling bin for ink cartridges available during school hours. The cartridge deposit fees are collected by the school and used for school programs.

Office Depot (2255 Howard St., Evanston, 847-492-0662, 2722 Green Bay Rd., Evanston, 847-475-2571, or 5507 W. Touhy Ave., Skokie, 847-763-8830). Reward Program members can recycle print or toner cartridges for a \$2 credit per cartridge on your rewards statement. When you get to \$10, you can print a coupon good for in-store purchases; you can recycle up to 10 cartridges a month.

Staples (1509 Waukegan Rd., Glenview, 847-832-0283), recycles all cartridges for a \$2 credit per cartridge on your rewards statement. Limit 10 per month; Limit of 20 per month if you are a premium awards member.

### **Light Bulbs – CFL and Fluorescent (tube), Thermostats and Thermometers**

Home Depot stores (2201 Oakton, Evanston, 847-733-9200; 2850 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, 847-400-5390) take compact (screw-in) CFL bulbs, as well as cell phones (remove SIM card) and rechargeable batteries (ends must be taped).

Lowes Home Improvement stores (1000 Willow Rd., Northbrook, 847-418-4540) take CFL lightbulbs, as well as cell phones (remove SIM card) and rechargeable batteries (ends must be taped).

Millen Hardware (1219 Wilmette Ave., 847-251-3060) accepts used CFL and fluorescent tubes. The charge is \$.80 each if just dropping off unless purchasing the same number of bulbs you drop off.

Weiss Ace Hardware (1560 Waukegan Rd., Glenview, 847-724-3444) accepts CFL bulbs and fluorescent tubes for \$.50 per bulb. They also accept rechargeable batteries (tape ends).

Wilmette Public Works (711 Laramie Ave., Mon.-Fri., 7 - 3) accepts CFL and fluorescent tubes up to 8' in length at the front counter. The Fire Station #1, 1304 Lake Ave., has receptacles for recycling sharps and unneeded medications. This is a SWANCC program for residents that live in a SWANCC community (no businesses, schools or institutions).

Thermostats and thermometers must be recycled through SWANCC (see **Hazardous Chemical Waste**).

**For your information, CFLs contain a trace amount of mercury—about 4 mg on average. For comparison, a mercury thermometer contains about 500 mg. There is no release of mercury at any time**

**unless the bulb breaks. If a CFL does break in your home, clean-up instructions are available at the USEPA's website <https://www.epa.gov/cfl/cleaning-broken-cfl>.**

### **Light Fixtures**

Evanston ReBuilding Warehouse (2101 Dempster St., Evanston, 847-864-9246) will take working light fixture donations during business hours Tues.-Sat., 10 - 5. All items must be pre-screened and approved. For further information, see <https://www.evanstonrebuildingwarehouse.org>.

RESTORE (6040 N Pulaski, Chicago, 773-539-6040) accepts used working light fixtures. Hours of drop off are Wed.-Sun., 10 - 6. Call first or email ([info@restorechicago.org](mailto:info@restorechicago.org)) to see what they will accept.

### **Magazines and Newspapers**

St. Joseph's School (1740 Lake Ave.) has a bin in the back of the parking lot on the corner of Lake Ave. and Ridge Rd., behind the school and just east of St Joseph's Church, as well as across the street on Lake Ave., in the parking lot behind the church. The recycling program benefits the school.

Check with your local homeless shelters, daycare, preschools or retirement centers to see if they would like your magazines. They may only take specific types. Remove the mailing label. They can also be put in your recycling bin.

### **Mattresses**

For mattress disposal and research on purchasing a new mattress, check out <https://www.bestmattressreviews.com/>, where you will get reviews on mattresses, as well as tips for recycling or disposing of your old mattress.

### **Miscellaneous General**

Goodwill Wilmette (923 Ridge Rd., Wilmette, 847-920-5303) takes working flat screen HDTVs, electronics, clothes, books, sports gear, broken small appliances, smaller household items, etc. Mon.-Fri., 9 - 7; Sat.-Sun., 9 - 6.

### **Motor Oil**

Wilmette Auto Care (803 Green Bay Rd., Wilmette, 847-256-7766) accepts motor oil, car batteries, old gasoline, antifreeze and tires (for a fee).

### **Musical Instruments**

MUST (<http://musicianschoolstoday.org/>) will recycle used musical instruments and donate them to public schools in need of assistance throughout the country.

### **Paint**

Got Paint? PICKUP (<https://gotpaintpickup.com/>, 312-882-7266) will arrange to pick up your unwanted latex paint after you register with their online service or text a message to 312-882-7266. Cost is \$2 per quart, \$5 per gallon or \$20 for a 5-gallon bucket.

Latex paint or water-based paints can be placed in your own trash receptacles after drying out the remaining product using paint hardener, kitty litter or shredded paper. Dry out empty cans in an open area and place in trash bins. Contact SWANCC at 217-524-3300 (<https://swancc.org/>) for local drop-off locations and dates for other kinds of paint and hazardous chemical waste (see **Hazardous Chemical Waste**).

Millen Hardware (1219 Wilmette Ave., 847-251-3060) accepts old latex paint but charges (\$2.00 per quart, \$3.50 per gallon, \$5.50 for a 2-gallon container, \$15 for a 5-gallon container). Leftover latex paint can be combined to fill a gallon bucket.

Weiss Ace Hardware (1560 Waukegan Rd., Glenview, 847-724-3444) recycles latex and oil-based paint for a fee. Also accepts all CFL light bulbs for a fee of \$.50 each and rechargeable batteries (free).

For useable paint, call your local church or shelter to see if they are interested. RESTORE (Habitat for Humanity) takes full, unopened cans of paint (see **Light Fixtures** for more information). Try repurposing paint at <https://www.freecycle.org>.

**Phones (see Computers and Electronics) (always remove your SIM card before dropping off a cell phone for recycling)**

Best Buy (1072 Willow Rd., Northbrook, 847-205-2305) and Staples (1509 Waukegan Rd., Glenview, 847-832-0283) accept cell phones.

The Village of Wilmette and most cell phone companies such as AT&T, Verizon, etc. accept cell phones for recycling.

**Plant Containers**

West End Florist and Nursery (3800 Old Glenview Rd., Evanston, 847-251-1943) accepts all plastic plant containers during regular business hours from March 1 through April 29 and from July 1 through September 15.

**Plastic Bags**

Jewel and most food stores accept clean plastic bags, including plastic bags for groceries, dry cleaning, produce and bread, as well as trashcan liners and cereal box liners (you must be able to stretch the bag with your thumb; most cereal box liners are not stretchable). Place a clean recycling bag in your pantry or below your sink to keep plastic bags for recycling. Drop off the contents every few weeks.

**Plastic Dry Cleaner Bags**

Gold Medal Cleaners (1123 Central Ave., 847-251-0090) accepts dry cleaning bags and hangers. Deposit in the blue bin just inside the door. They will also return your cleaned clothing without a plastic bag or put it in your own garment bag if left when dropping off clothes.

**Propane Tanks**

Millen Hardware (1219 Wilmette Ave., 847-251-3060), will exchange propane tanks when you need a refill. If you have a propane tank to get rid of, Millen's will recycle it if it is in good condition.

**Sharps**

Fire Station #1 (1304 Lake Ave., Mon.-Fri.) accepts sharps in sealed containers. This is a SWANCC program for residents that live in a SWANCC community (no businesses, schools or institutions).

**Smoke Detectors**

For proper disposal of smoke detectors, see [https://about.usps.com/postal-bulletin/2012/pb22334/html/cover\\_025.htm](https://about.usps.com/postal-bulletin/2012/pb22334/html/cover_025.htm).

**Sports Equipment**

Play It Again Sports, 575 Waukegan Rd, Northbrook (847-564-9180), accepts gently-used sports equipment. They will offer money or trade for replacement equipment and will pick up larger items for a fee.

You can also donate used sports equipment to local charities (see **Additional Recycling Sources** towards end of document).

**Styrofoam**

Abt Electronics (1200 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, 847-967-8830; see **Appliances**) accepts only white Styrofoam in blocks and sheets for recycling at the "Customer Pick-Up" counter Mon.- Fri., 9 - 9, Sat., 9 - 7:30; Sun., 10:30 - 6:30. There is a truck they will direct you to.

Winnetka Public Works (1390 Willow Rd., Winnetka) accepts white Styrofoam (#6 only) in blocks and sheets, as well as any colors of clean carry-out containers, egg cartons and food trays. Drop off in the vestibule facing Willow Rd., Mon.-Fri., 7 - 5. No Styrofoam peanuts.

**Styrofoam Peanuts**

The UPS Store in Winnetka (1001 Green Bay Rd., Winnetka, 847-446-6899; Mon.-Fri., 8:30-7; Sat., 10 - 4) as well as the UPS Store in Glenview (2516 Waukegan Rd, Glenview, 847-724-3800; Mon-Fri., 8:30 - 7; Sat. 10 - 4) will reuse clean Styrofoam peanuts and, where possible, the boxes in which they shipped.

**Tennis Balls**

Go to <https://www.tennisballrecycling.com/> to see where you can ship your used tennis balls for free.

Rebounces sells a product that can rejuvenate your balls (<https://rebounces.com/>).

Centennial Tennis Center (2300 Old Glenview Rd., 847-256-6100) takes used tennis balls and donates them to schools and nursing homes.

### **Thermometers and Thermostats**

Thermostats and thermometers must be recycled through SWANCC (<https://www.swancc.org/thermometers>) (see **Hazardous Chemical Waste**).

### **Tires**

Most service stations accept worn tires (for a fee) to be recycled and used for playground surfaces (see **Motor Oil**).

### **Toys**

Gently-used toys can be dropped off at Winnetka Community House, or donated to Goodwill or Salvation Army (See **Clothes** section previously listed for further information).

Gently-used stuffed animals, toys, blankets, baby items, children's clothes and books can be donated to S.A.F.E. (<https://www.stuffedanimalsforemergencies.org>), where they go to homeless shelters, hospitals and emergency aid workers.

### **Tyvek Envelopes**

Send your Tyvek envelopes to CFS Recycling, 337 A Industrial Drive, Petersburg, VA 23805. (These are white unpadded envelopes with green triangles on them.) For further inquiries, call 804-518-2930.

### **TVs**

Abt (1200 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, 847-967-8830) now accepts all TVs (working and nonworking) for recycling (fee based on size) (see **Appliances**).

Goodwill (923 Ridge Rd., Wilmette, 847-920-5303); no longer does pickups; takes working flat screen TVs. Mon.-Fri., 9 - 7; Sat.-Sun., 9 - 6. No rear-projection TVs are accepted.

Salvation Army (4335 Oakton, Skokie, 773-477-1300) takes working flat screen TVs. Mon.-Sat., 9 - 9; Sun. 1 - 5.

Wilmette Public Works takes TVs (*working and non-working*) in the dumpster at their 711 Laramie Ave. location (24/7).

Through SWANCC, Winnetka Public Works offers free residential electronics drop off (including TVs and monitors) at the WPW building on Willow Rd., Thurs., 1 - 3. (See **Computers and Electronics**.) They only take larger TVs from April through mid-November.

For SWANCC residents only (not businesses), appliances can be dropped off all year round at the Glenview Transfer Station, 3 Providence Way, Des Plaines, Saturdays, 9 - 11:30 (see [https://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/cdph/supp\\_info/inspections---permitting/household\\_chemicalscomputerrecyclingfacilityaccepteditems.html](https://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/cdph/supp_info/inspections---permitting/household_chemicalscomputerrecyclingfacilityaccepteditems.html) for a complete listing of items accepted at this facility).

### **Vases**

Morning Glory (1135½ Central Ave., 847-256-2575) accepts flower vases of all sizes.

Random Acts of Flowers (2000 Greenleaf St., Ste. #5, Evanston, 847-430-4751) accepts vases to repurpose flower arrangements for health care facility patients. Call before dropping off. Mon.-Fri., 9 - 5.

### **Vinyl**

Adams Plastics (501 N Homan Ave., Chicago) will recycle vinyl. For further information, call 224-248-8010 and

ask for Rob LaVoy or see [www.adamsplastics.com/](http://www.adamsplastics.com/).

### **Water Filters**

**Brita** filters can be recycled through TerraCycle. Go to the following websites to register so you can download a prepaid postage label and take it to a UPS location: (<https://www.brita.com/recycling-filters/>). **Everpure** filters can be recycled through TerraCycle (<https://www.terracycle.com/en-US/brigades/everpure>). **Pur** water filters can be recycled through TerraCycle (<https://www.terracycle.com/en-US/brigades/pur-brigade>). To recycle other water filters (for a small fee), including refrigerator filters, <https://www.recyclewaterfilters.com/>.

### **X-Rays**

SWANCC lists options for film recycling <https://swancc.org/film>.

### **Additional Recycling Resources**

To join a free local Wilmette giveaway and recycling program, go to <https://groups.freecycle.org/group/WilmetteIL/posts/all>. You will receive notification of items that people are giving away in Wilmette and be able to post your own giveaway items as well. It is a great way to give and get free stuff and keep it local.

Visit <https://www.wilmette.com/> for a detailed description of the village household recycling program. Visit <https://swancc.org> for their Recycling Resources online guide with many ideas for recycling in the broader metropolitan area.

Following are some websites for making donations:

<https://www.newtriertownship.com/159/Pantry-Priority-Needs-List> is the site for the New Trier Township Food Pantry donations (739 Elm Street, Winnetka, 847-446-8202). Hours of operation are Mon.-Fri., 9 - 5. Many grocery and personal-use items are welcome.

<https://www.chicagosfoodbank.org/find-food/>. Type in a zip code to get locations of pantries, shelters and Soup Kitchens in Cook County.

For Lake County: <https://www.homelessshelterdirectory.org/cgi-bin/id/cityfoodbanks.cgi?city=North%20Chicago&state=IL>

This guide is updated periodically by Go Green Wilmette. If you have suggestions for updates, please email them to [gogreenwilmetteinfo@gmail.com](mailto:gogreenwilmetteinfo@gmail.com).

**GREEN TIPS: YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

**PLANT NATIVE FLOWERS, BUSHES AND OAK TREES.** Don't use natives, cultivars or anything imported. For native alternatives, see: [The Midwestern Native Garden: An Illustrated Guide](#) by Charlotte Adelman and Bernard Schwartz. For native flower suggestions for sunny, shady and wet areas, go to <https://www.gogreenwilmette.org/little-garden-club-pocket-prairie-garden/> for suggestions.

**REDUCE USE OF CHEMICALS AND GAS-POWERED MACHINES** for cleaner, healthier air. Make sure your lawn service uses electric leaf blowers, particularly from May 15-September 30 when gas-powered leaf blowers are prohibited. Be sure to discuss this with your yard service.

**REPLACE** incandescent and **CFL** bulbs with **LED** bulbs and save electricity immediately.

**TURN OFF ELECTRIC DEVICES.** Unplug appliances and chargers when not in use. Plug music and AV electronics into power strips that can be easily turned off.

**REDUCE YOUR HOME'S HEATING/COOLING NEEDS.** Use a programmable thermostat. Turn the temperature down two degrees in the winter, up two in the summer. Use proper insulation.

**REDUCE WATER USE.** Make an effort to use less water in bathrooms, kitchen, laundry. Don't water your yard.

**BE PART OF THE SOLUTION:** Support the Shedd Aquarium initiative and say "no thanks" to single-use plastics like straws (remember to tell your server you don't want a straw before you get water). Use refillable water bottles and reusable or compostable cups and flatware.

**REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE:** Cut consumption. Encourage recycling in your home, office and businesses and restaurants you frequent. Compost your food waste.

**BUY LOCALLY AND/OR ORGANICALLY GROWN FOOD:** Be aware of how far your food travels to your table and how it is grown. Bring your own bag. Eat low on the food chain.

**INTERESTED IN A FOOD COMPOSTING PICKUP?** Google "Collective Resource" (see **Composting/Organic Waste Disposal**) for more information. They also do zero waste events.

**LOOK INTO SOLAR POWER.** It's getting less expensive and easier to install.

For more information on Go Green Wilmette, go to <http://www.gogreenwilmette.org/>.