

South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association

Guide to Proper Disposal

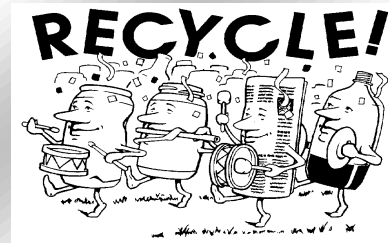
in the South Suburbs

South suburban residents throw out an average of 4.4 pounds of garbage per day, which adds up to **900 million** pounds per year for our region. Some of this mountain of trash can be recycled or remanufactured for future use, and household items that contain toxic materials must not be landfilled but must be disposed of carefully to prevent contamination to the environment.

This guide provides disposal information for many household items. However, the information provided is not exhaustive. If you need additional information, please call the **South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association** at (708) 206-1155.



Items that end up in landfills never decompose!



If you have questions about recycling aluminum, paper or metal, call your waste hauler for information about the recycling program in your town.

Mention of companies or organizations in this directory does not constitute an endorsement of or recommendation for use by the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association.

AEROSOL CANS

Aerosol cans are generally made from steel, which is a widely recycled material. The U.S. EPA suggests that all aerosol cans, once emptied, should be recycled. Contrary to popular belief, aerosol cans do not contain chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). However, they pose a hazard to waste haulers if not handled properly, so check with your disposal service to see if they accept empty aerosol cans.

Residents can also bring aerosol cans can to one of the long-term Household Hazardous Waste facilities located in Naperville, Rockford or Chicago. For more information, contact the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency web site, www.epa.state.il.us, or phone 217-785-8604.

APPLIANCES

Major appliances (sometimes called "white goods") include air conditioners, clothes washers and dryers, dehumidifiers, dishwashers, freezers, ranges and water heaters.

According to state law, the homeowner must remove the doors of refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers, and dryers. Refrigerant gas (freon) and electrical switches containing mercury are also the responsibility of the homeowner, who must hire a certified appliance processor to have them removed.

REFRIGERATORS/FREEZERS (white goods):

Metro Recycling
13546 S. Western Ave.
Blue Island, IL
708-388-1551
Buys scrap metals

ComEd: Customers Only
Call to schedule a pick up
1-888-806-2273
M - F: 7a - 8p
Sat: 9a - 5:30p

Gaby Iron & Metal Company
2611 East End Ave.
Chicago Heights, IL
708-856-8801
Buys scrap metals

Illinois Recycling Services
12 N. Dixie Hwy
Momence, IL
708-314-8624

Best Buy stores also have haul-away or pickup programs for appliances. Contact your local Best Buy for more information 1-800-BEST BUY.

AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS

Automotive products such as antifreeze, brake fluid, and transmission fluid contain many toxic materials and should not end up in the trash or sewers. Automotive products can be taken to one of the long-term Household Hazardous Waste facilities located in Naperville, Rockford or Chicago. Information is available on Illinois EPA's web site at www.epa.state.il.us or by calling 217-785-8604.

See **Motor Oil** section for more automotive product information.

BATTERIES



Car (lead-acid) batteries: It has been illegal to dispose of car batteries in Illinois landfills since 1990, but lead-acid batteries are easily recycled or refurbished. When purchasing a new car battery, ask for a credit for your old one.

AutoZone
Home Depot
O'Reilly Auto Parts

Batteries Plus
Advance Auto Parts
Sam's Club

Firestone Complete Car Care
Walmart Tire & Lube Express
Interstate All Battery Center

Household Batteries (dry cell): Common household or dry cell batteries contain heavy metals such as mercury, cadmium, and lead, and should never be landfilled or incinerated. Heavy metals have the potential to contaminate soil, water and air, which can seriously affect human health and the environment. The following business will accept and properly dispose of dry cell batteries.

Country Club Hills
Heritage Health Foods
4111 W. 183rd St.
708-957-0595

Crete
Crete Public Library
1177 N. Main St.
708-672-8017

Battery Types & Sizes

Alkaline and carbon-zinc
(9-volt, D, C, AA, and AAA)

Mercuric-oxide (button, some
Cylindrical and rectangular)

Silver-oxide and zinc-air (button)

Lithium (9-volt, C, AA, coin, button)

Common Uses

Cassette players, radios, flashlights
toys, etc.

Hearing aids, heart monitors
Communication devices, cameras

Hearing aids, watches, cameras,
Paging devices, calculators

Cameras, calculators, computers
pacemakers, watches

Ni-cad (nickel-cadmium) **Batteries** are used for cell phones and other electronic devices, such as kitchen appliances, portable vacuum cleaners and power tools.

All south suburban RADIO SHACK locations collect and recycle Ni-cad batteries, from any source.

BATTERIES PLUS recycles most batteries, call **1-800-677-8278** for your nearest location.

The Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation gives information on how and where to recycle Ni-cad rechargeable batteries. The phone number is **1-800-822-8837**, and the web site is www.rbrc.com

Save your household batteries and bring them to one of the long-term Hazardous Waste Facilities located in Naperville, Rockford or Chicago.

Car Batteries

Markham

Mokena

Plainfield

Interstate Battery
16220 Crawford Ave
708-333-2580

Interstate Battery
8500 191 St
708-479-4500

Interstate Battery
23841 W. Areo Ct.
815-436-4787

The following businesses will also accept car batteries:

- *Advance Auto Parts*
- *Firestone*
- *AutoZone*
- *Murray's Auto Parts*
- *Home Depot*
- *Sam's Club*
- *Wal-Mart Tire & Lube Express*
- *O'Reilly's Auto Parts*
- *Batteries Plus*
- *Tinley Auto Repair & Towing*

BULK ITEMS

Large items such as couches, chairs, mattresses, dressers, and exercise equipment can be taken out with your household trash on a regularly scheduled trash day. Each waste hauler has certain guidelines and restrictions. Please call for detailed information.

COMPUTERS and OTHER ELECTRONICS

Since computers and other electronic equipment contain hazardous materials such as mercury, cadmium, lead and brominated flame-retardants, they should never be disposed of in landfills.

Computers or other technology items that still work can be donated to the **Salvation Army**. Locations and information about pick-ups are available by calling 1-800-348-8700.

Tinley Park

**Assistive Technology Exchange
United Cerebral Palsy
7550 W. 183rd St.
708-444-8460 x231
Mon - Fri 9a - 3p

Plainfield (Will County Residents Only)

Vintage Tech Recyclers
25503 W. Ruff St., Unit C
877-540-7269

**As of Oct 1, 2014 televisions are no longer accepted

As of January 31, 2016 Best Buy no longer accepts any size televisions or monitors

Best Buy recycles electronics that does not have a screen: DVD players, audio and video cables, cell phones and more. Three items per household per day will be accepted.

Most items are recycled free of charge, with a few restrictions.

Electronics containing refrigerants, such as mini refrigerators or air conditioners are not accepted.

Homewood

(708) 957-9348
17800 Halsted

Lansing

(708) 895-8858
17151 Torrence Ave

Midlothian

(708) 369-0133
4925 Cal Sag Rd

Orland Park

(708) 349-9251
15052 LaGrange Rd

Tinley Park

(815) 469-1306
7330 191st St.

Office Depot - accepts electronics (except televisions) as a part of the Tech Box Recycling Program. The Tech Box Recycling service costs \$5, \$10, or \$15 per box, including shipping, handling, and recycling. All boxes are made using 100% recycled cardboard. Call your local Office Depot to see if they participate.

Calumet City

(708) 862-4900
1370 Torrence Ave.

Frankfort

(815) 806-8661
11145 West Lincoln Highway

Other Collection sites: **(Televisions are not accepted at these (*) locations)**

Keeling Family Foundation VetTech.US collects electronics, refurbishes computers and donates them to those in need; women's shelters, churches, veterans, nursing homes, schools, hospitals, Fisher House and many others. VetTech accepts older model CRT televisions of all sizes by visiting website: www.vettech.us or call 708-533-5464. Fees apply

Alsip: No CRT's

BHL (E-Recycle Company)
12841 S. Pulaski Rd
Call first fees may apply
708-926-2418

***Lansing:** Goodwill Retail Store:
3679 Ridge Rd.
708-474-4102

***Blue Island:** Public Works Dept.

3153 Wireton Rd.
Mon-Fri 7a-3:30p

Lynwood: Lynwood Recycling Center

21540 Lincoln Hwy.
Mon-Fri 7a-5p. Sat 9a-2p
No CRT's

***Crestwood:** Pass it on Thrift Center
5435 W. 127th St
708-824-0433
M-T-W-F 10a-4p, Th-10a-8p
Sat 10a-3p

***Markham:** Bremen Township Hwy Dept.
16361 Kedzie Pkwy.
Mon-Fri: 9a-4p

***Midlothian Fire Station #2**
14700 Homan Ave.
Mon-Fr: 4p - 8p
Sat: 1p - 5p

***Oak Forest:** Bremen Youth Services
15350 Oak Park Ave.
Mon-Fri: 9a-3p
708-687-9200

***Orland Park:** Goodwill Retail Store
7400 W. 159th St.
Mon-Sat: 8a-9p
Sun 9a-8p
708-429-9030

Momence: Illinois recycling Services
12 N. Dixie Highway
Fees apply call
708-314-8624

***Salvation Army (as of March 4, 2015)**
150 N. Halsted Street
Chicago Heights
8:30a - 7p M - Sat
708-754-4859

***Staples**
Will takes 6 electronic items per day
1-800-333-3330

***Steger:** EcoSAFE
3100 Lewis-Sherman Drive
Mon-Fri: 10a-2p
Call First: 708-646-5204 or
708-918-9935

Kankakee Public Works
401 W. Oak Street
(815) 933-0444
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
8a - 3p

Bradley Public Works
210 E. Broadway Street
(815) 933-0444
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
8a - 3p

Will County Residents Only

ID required to Prove Will County Residency

Washington Township/Beecher
30200 Town Center Road
(Off Indiana Ave, 1 mile E. of Dixie Hwy)
(815) 727-8834
Tuesday and Thursday: 7a - 3p

Mokena:
Residential Electronic Recycling Program
708-479-3927

New Lenox: New Lenox Township

1100 S. Cedar Rd.
2nd and 4th Wed 5p - 7p
815-485-6431
Limit 2 televisions per vehicle

Peotone Police Department

208 E. Main St.
1st and 3rd Wed 5p - 7p
Limit 2 televisions per vehicle

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

The following places will accept and properly dispose of old fire extinguishers:

EFR Fire Equipment
189th & Wolf Road, E-3
Mokena, IL (708) 479-6490

Reliable Fire Extinguishers & Equipment
12845 S. Cicero Ave.
Alsip, IL (708) 597-4600

FLUORESCENT BULBS

Fluorescent bulbs should never be disposed of in landfills. When shattered, fluorescent bulbs release mercury and other metals that are very hazardous to humans and to the environment.

Most **Home Depot** stores will take the long fluorescent bulbs for recycling. Bulbs should be placed in a plastic bag and taken to the "Returns Department" where there will be a designated drop off point.

Compact Fluorescent Bulbs (CFL) - This type of light bulb uses a fraction of the electricity used by incandescent light bulbs. CFLs are becoming a household name. They use less power and have a longer rated life. A CFL can save in electricity costs over the lamp's lifetime compared to an incandescent lamp. Like all fluorescent lamps, CFLs contain mercury and residents may also bring their bulbs to one of the Household Hazardous Waste facilities located in Naperville, Rockford or Chicago. Information is available on Illinois EPA's web site at www.epa.state.il.us or by calling 217-785-8504

Home Depot
12000 S. Cicero Avenue
Alsip, IL
708-239-1873

Home Depot
1550 Torrence Avenue
Calumet City, IL
708-730-9100

Home Depot
14053 S. Bell Road
Homer Glen, IL
708-301-5139

Home Depot
17845 Halsted Street
Homewood, IL
708-647-6084

Home Depot
20808 Cicero Avenue
Matteson, IL
708-481-1551

Home Depot
7300 W. 159th Street
Orland Park, IL
708-614-9200

HEATING OIL

Residential heating oil should be drained from tanks into sturdy containers, and delivered to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection for proper disposal. For commercial quantities, businesses can contact Heritage Environmental Services, 15330 Canal Bank Road, Lemont, IL. The phone number is (630) 739-1151.

MOTOR OIL

Motor oil never wears out; it just gets dirty. Oil can be recycled, refined and used again, reducing our reliance on imported oil.

The following businesses will accept waste oil and oil filters at no charge:

- *Auto Zone*
- *Jiffy Lube*
- *Murray's*
- *Oil & Go*
- *Oil Experts*
- *Oil Express*
- *Pep Boys*
- *Pit Stop 500*

PACKING MATERIAL

Bubble wrap, styrofoam, packing "peanuts" and old boxes can all be reused by shipping businesses. Bring the material to any UPS Store (formerly Mail Boxes, Etc.) No food packaging will be accepted.

Contact www.polystyrene.org for more recycling options.

I SOLD IT ON EBAY
18090 Wolf Rd
Orland Park, IL 60467
(708) 590-4658

PAINT

To dispose of **latex** (water-based) paint, mix it with an absorbent material such as kitty litter or strips of paper. When it is dry, the material can be placed in the garbage with other household trash. Or allow the can to dry, then recycle the can and lid. If it cannot be recycled leave can next to garbage can with the lid off.

Several Ace Hardware Stores, through Earth Paints Collections Systems, will recycle latex paint for a nominal charge per container. This fee helps to offset the cost of recycling the paint and containers.

Per container recycling fees*

1 - Quart - \$1.50

1 - Gallon - \$2.50

5 - Gallon - \$8.00

*All recycling fees are charged per container regardless of the amount of paint in the can.

Ace Hardware Locations:

Homewood

18410 Governors Hwy
708-799-8286

Orland Hills

9545 W. 167th St.
708-460-8140

Tinley Park

16725 S. Oak Park Ave.
708-429-2770

New Lenox

358 West Maple
815-485-3040

Call your local Ace Hardware Store to see if they participate in this recycling program.

Krud Kutter Waste Paint Hardener (Earth Friendly) is great for latex paint/colorant spills and disposal. Easy to use, turns liquid paint solid for curbside disposal, works in minutes. 3.5oz bag will treat 2/3 gallon of paint. Product can be purchased from:

Ace Hardware

Home Depot

Target

Wal-Mart

To dispose of **oil-based** paint, store it until paint can be taken to one of the long-term Household Hazardous Waste facilities located in Naperville, Rockford or Chicago. Information is available on the Illinois EPA web site at www.epa.state.il.us or by calling 217-785-8604.

PAPER RECYCLING (Shredding Services)

Call first to set up drop off date.

Blue Island

ACI
2872 Vermont Street
708-388-1099

Office Max - \$0.59 per pound
Call your local Office Max for
More information.

Shark Shredding, Inc.

1-866-557-4275
708-388-0011
18811 S. 90th Ave.

Mokena, IL
Serves: Chicagoland, NW Indiana, Souther Wisconsin
www.sharkshredding.com

PHARMACEUTICALS

Pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs) are a growing concern in the recycling/disposal community. It has been found that pharmaceuticals are surviving water treatment facilities and making their way into drinking water. The EPA has asked people to stop flushing unwanted medications down the drain.

Drop off Locations:

Walgreens Kiosk

Walgreens safe medication disposal kiosks provide a safe and convenient way to disposal of unwanted, unused or expired medication at no cost, year around.

Call your local Walgreen for availability.

New Lenox Residents

New Lenox Police Department
701 W. Haven

Orland Hills Residents

Orland Hills Police Department
16033 S. 94th Ave.

Doc's Drugs (Expired Medication Only)

1277 Dixie Highway, Beecher, IL
708-946-3714

Doc's Drugs (Expired Medication Only)

25624 Governors Highway, Monee, IL
815-534-8540

Doc's Drugs (Expired Medication Only)

222 Harlem Avenue, Peotone, IL
708-258-6811

South Chicago Heights Police Department

185 W. Sauk Trail

Expired or unwanted items accepted: prescription medication, over-the-counter medication, medicated shampoos, prescription inhalers, over-the-counter inhalers, glass thermometers (contain mercury), medical devices containing mercury (blood pressure units, barometers, etc.).

Old and outdated medicines and pharmaceuticals may also be taken one of the long-term Household Hazardous Waste facilities in Naperville, Rockford or Chicago. No red bags or needles are accepted. Information is available at www.epa.state.il.us or by calling 217-785-8604.

PROPANE TANKS

Propane is a highly flammable gas that is used in tanks for gas grills and bottles for camp stoves and lanterns. These tanks and bottles require special handling and should never be thrown out with regular household trash. They are pressurized, and may explode or ignite when crushed inside garbage trucks, threatening the safety of the haulers and damaging their equipment.

Residents can drop off used propane tanks at the following places:

AMERIGAS
2801 East 175th St.
Lansing, IL (708) 534-2263
(Will also repair and refill tanks)

Ashland Propane
16525 Vincennes Ave.
South Holland, IL (708) 339-3400

Crete Supply Inc.
25608 S. Dixie Hwy
Crete, IL 60417
708-672-3300

AMERIGAS
25224 W. Rt. 30
Plainfield, IL (815) 436-2011
(tanks up to 20lbs)

RAILROAD TIES

Residents can bring railroad ties to Homewood Disposal, Inc., 1501 W. 175th St., Homewood, Illinois, 708-798-1004.

SMOKE DETECTORS

There are two basic types of smoke detectors, photoelectric and ionizing, and proper disposal of non-functioning smoke detectors depends on the type. Photoelectric detectors do not contain hazardous material and may be disposed of in the trash - after the battery is removed. Ionizing smoke detectors contain small amounts of a radio active material called Americium-241. (Am-241 has a half-life of 458 years.) The U.S. EPA, in conjunction with the Purdue Research Foundation, suggests that the best way to dispose of an ionizing smoke detector is to send it back to the manufacturer. If it still works, you can also take it to the *Salvation Army* to be reused.

SYRINGES (SHARPS)

Syringes/sharps can be placed in a rigid container, such as detergent bottle. Secure the lid with tape, and throw the container out with other household trash. This is to protect waste haulers who can contract *AIDS* or other serious infections from a puncture,

TELEVISIONS

VetTech.US - Keeling Family Foundation - Accepts CRT Televisions of All Sizes by calling 708-533-5464 to schedule a drop-off or make arrangements for a pick up. Fees Apply

Illinois Recycling Services is a full service residential & B2B recycler. Specializing in TV recycling as well as scrap computers, appliances and all other electronics devices. Nationwide pickup service available with curbside residential services available in the Chicagoland area. Fees apply for more information call 708-314-8624.

THERMOSTATS & THERMOMETERS

Most household thermostats and thermometers contain mercury. To ensure proper disposal, old thermostats and thermometers should be stored safely until items can be taken to one of the long-term hazardous waste facilities located in Naperville, Rockford or Chicago.

Another resource to help locate a disposal site go to: <http://www.thermostat-recycle.org>
Enter your zip code and submit. A populated list of recycling locations closest to you is generated. It is suggested that you call before going to ensure that company is still participating in the recycling program.

TIRE TIES

Homewood Disposal Service
708-798-1004
Call for more information

TIRES

Almost 300 million used tires are generated each year in the U.S. Stockpiles of old tires present a serious solid waste disposal problem because they are a potential fire hazard, can contaminate ground water, and can breed mosquitos. Scrap tires should be collected to be retreaded, burned for energy, or converted into molded rubber products, rubberized asphalt paving, and athletic surfaces.

To properly dispose of used tires, contact your nearest dealer. Almost all dealers accept old tires and charge a disposal fee of approximately \$3.00 per tire.

Lansing

Just Tires
2500 173rd St.
708-474-1446

Orland Park

Empire Tire & Battery
16201 Wolf Rd.
708-349-6280

Steger

Scott's U-Save
3530 Chicago Rd
708-756-3999

Tinley Park

VIP Tire Co.
7121 171st St.
708-614-1700

Homewood

Firestone
17935 Halsted
708-799-7552

Visit www.earth911.org to help determine a location for disposal of a recyclable item; enter the product name and your location. If there are available disposal sources, a list is provided with name, address and phone number.

Other useful web sites to visit for recycling electronics:

- www.1800recycling.com
- www.mygreenelectronics.org
- www.epadata.state.il.us/land/ewaste/collection-site.asp