

Beyond the Bin

*Recycling Opportunities
in Oak Park and River Forest*





**Thank You for
Recycling**

The Village of Oak Park operates a comprehensive recycling collection program offered to all residential households of up to five units on a weekly basis. This guide was compiled by the Oak Park Environment and Energy Commission and the River Forest Sustainability Committee to offer additional information to recycle items not accepted in the curbside collection container. For more information on the Village collection and recycling program, visit www.oak-park.us/village-services/refuse-recycling.

The Village of River Forest provides recycling collection services to households of up to three units on a weekly basis. For more information visit www.vrf.us/residents/refuse-a-recycling#recycling

This guide contains a list of common items and materials that are recyclable, and lists the local and regional businesses that will accept these items from residents for recycling/reuse. Please contact the organization during business hours prior to drop-off.

To submit ideas, suggestions and requests for future versions of *Beyond the Bin*, please contact the Village Environmental Services Manager at **708.358.5700** or via e-mail at publicworks@oak-park.us.



**Terms You
Can (re)Use**

Long-term Hazardous Waste Facility: There is a long-term hazardous waste facility located next to Naperville Public Works at 156 Fort Hill Dr. Drop off is each Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, visit www.naperville.il.us/hhw.

Also, the Chicago Household Hazardous Waste Facility in Goose Island, 1150 N. North Branch St., accepts drop-offs 7 a.m. - noon on Tuesdays; 2 p.m. - 7 p.m. Thursdays; and 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. the first Saturday of each month. For general information, call 312.744.7672.

Bulk Items: In Oak Park, bulk items will be picked up by the Village residential refuse service if they are clearly marked with two Pink Refuse Stickers. Stickers may be purchased at Village Hall, 123 Madison St.; Dressel's Ace Hardware, 1137 Chicago Ave.; Fair Share Finer Foods, 6226 Roosevelt Rd.; any of the area Jewel Food Stores (438 Madison St. and 7036 Roosevelt Rd. in Oak Park and 7525 Lake St. in River Forest) and Pete's Fresh Market, 259 Lake St.

In River Forest, bulk items will be picked up when there is a Universal Waste Tag attached to each item placed next to your garbage can for pick up on regular collection days. Stickers may be purchased at Village Hall, 400 Park Ave.; Jewel, 7525 Lake St.; Dressel's Hardware, 1137 Chicago, Oak Park; and Schauer Ace Hardware, 7449 W. Madison, Forest Park. For more information visit www.vrf.us/residents/refuse-a-recycling#recycling



Recycling Categories

Instructions: Click on a category to link to that section.

All Items	Ink Cartridges
American Flags	Lawnmowers
Appliances	License Plates
Art & School Supplies	Magazines
Automobile Donation	Material Hauling
Automotive Products	Media
Batteries (Rechargeable)	Medical Waste
Bicycles	Metal (Scrap)
Blankets	Newspaper
Books	Packing Peanuts
Building Materials	Paint
Cameras	Paper
Cardboard (Corrugated)	Plastic Bags (Shopping)
Carpet Padding & Rug Disposal	Prescription Drugs
CDs, Tapes, etc.	Propane Tanks
Cell Phones	Resale Shops
Clothing	Shoes
Composting	Smoke Detectors
Computers	Software
Consignment Shops	Sports Equipment
Corks	Spray Cans
DVDs	Styrofoam Packaging
Electronics	Tapes
Eyeglasses	Televisions
Fire Extinguishers	Tires
Fluorescent Bulbs	Towels
Glass	Toys (Animals)
Grills	Toys (Children)
Hangers & Dry Cleaning Bags	Transportation
Hearing Aids	Videos
Household Hazardous Waste	



All Items

Freecycle: Reuse is even better than recycling. Go to <http://groups.freecycle.org/oakparkilfreecycle> and login to join your neighbors in giving and getting useful items. This is great for any items not listed elsewhere!

Craigslist: Another online site that focuses on group sharing is Craigslist.org. Craigslist operates much like a message board. Every day, people in the Chicagoland area post items on the site they're hoping to get rid of, sometimes for free. Items can also be searched for by state/city.

Repair Café: Find a repair specialist to help fix things rather than throwing them away. Tools and materials are available to help with small electric items such as lamps or toasters, mending clothes, fixing jewelry and more. Learn more at www.repaircafeoakparkil.org.

S.C.A.R.C.E.: School and Community Assistance for Recycling & Composting Education (S.C.A.R.C.E.)
799 Roosevelt Rd., Bldg. 2
Suite 108, Glen Ellyn
630.545.9710

www.scarcecoed.org

S.C.A.R.C.E. organization teaches people about the Earth's natural resources. They believe education inspires people to preserve resources and care for the Earth, in addition to teaching that each individual action makes a difference. Donations such as cell phones, laptops, books, office supplies, desks, ink cartridges and more are matched to donators.

Other recycling resources may be found at:

www.earth911.com www.chicagorecycling.org
www.1800recycling.com www.terracycle.com



American Flags

American flags may be placed in the drop box located at River Forest Village Hall, 400 Park Ave. next to the post office box in the driveway.



Appliances

In Oak Park: One bulk item per week for each Oak Park residential unit may be placed in the trash collection area with two pink stickers attached to it (see Bulk Items for more information).

Window air conditioners, due to Freon, require a special pick-up and a fee. Other options include the following:

Salvation Army Thrift Store
6536 Roosevelt Rd., Oak Park
708.848.1181

Accepts all functioning appliances in moderate to good condition.



Art & School Supplies

The Little Bits Workshop in River Forest accepts art and school supplies. Check website for acceptable items: www.thelittlebitsworkshop.com



Automobile Donation

Purple Heart
312.235.1000
purpleheartcars.org

Kars4Kids.org
877.527.7454 or
877.Kars.4Kids
kars4kids.org/car-donation-illinois.htm

Kidney Foundation
888.319.2277
kidney.org/support/kidneycars/index.cfm



Automotive Products

Auto Experts
7505 Randolph St., Forest Park
708.771.9222
Accepts batteries and oil (no more than one gallon), and tires (\$3 per tire).

Cassidy Tire
7227 W. North Ave., River Forest
708.290.1349

DesPlaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District
8130 Ogden Ave., Lyons (west of Harlem)
708.447.1765
Only accepts tires. Accepts up to five tires per resident. Call first to schedule. The DVMAD is a licensed EPA waste tire hauler and all tires are properly disposed of through this facility. Since mosquitoes develop in standing water, places that can hold water for more than a week are likely sources for them.

Jiffy Lube
1122 Madison St., Oak Park
708.383.3339
Accepts batteries, oil and transmission fluid for customers only.

Midas Muffler & Brake Shop
6249 W. North Ave., Oak Park
708.848.2010
Accepts batteries and oil.

Oak Park Citgo
333 Lake St., Oak Park
708.383.7697
Accepts anti-freeze, batteries, oil and tires during operating hours only. Tire recycling is \$3 per tire.

Suburban Automotive, Inc.
826 North Blvd., Oak Park
708.771.4500
Accepts anti-freeze, batteries, oil, transmission fluid and tires. Tire recycling is \$3 per tire.



Batteries
Rechargeable only

Batteries + Bulbs
7111 W. North Ave.
708.948.7885

Radio Shack
914 Madison St., Oak Park
708.848.0110
Also accepts security system batteries.

Village of Oak Park
Public Works Department
201 South Blvd., Oak Park
708.358.5700



Bicycles

Working Bikes Co-op
2434 S. Western Ave., Chicago
773.847.5440
Accepts only bicycles with little or no rust.



Blankets

Animal Care League
1013 Garfield St., Oak Park
708.848.8155
Accepts blankets, towels, animal toys and plastic bags for reuse. Also accepts dog food, treats, animal crates, leashes and collars.



GREEN FACTS
If you live within five miles, consider biking or walking to work. If just one member of each U.S. household did this, they would eliminate more than 115 million tons of global warming pollution annually.

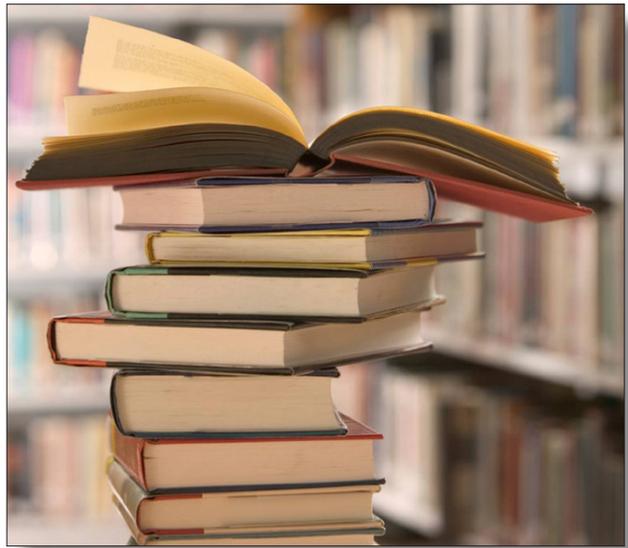


In Oak Park: Contact any of the three local Oak Park Library branches for information on planned book sales and drives. Find them online at: www.oppl.org.

In River Forest: The Friends of the River Forest Public Library host an annual summer book sale. For more information visit www.rflib.org/support-your-library/friends-of-the-library

Brown Elephant
217 Harrison St., Oak Park
708.445.0612

Accepts clothing, books, music, shoes, furniture, small electronics and more. Pick-up available. Accepts donations during operating hours only.



Contact any Oak Park Library for information on book sales, drives and other ways to recycle unwanted books.



Eagle Biomass
815.344.8777
Provides debris and waste removal recycling, hauling and clean-up services for residential and commercial sites for building developers and demolition contractors. Specializes in new construction sites.

Murco Recycling Enterprises, Inc.
murco.net
708.352.4111
Brokers of used residential building materials sold at demolition auctions.

ReBuilding Exchange
1740 W. Webster Ave., Chicago
773.252.2234
www.rebuildingexchange.org
ReBuilding Exchange offers recycled and reclaimed building materials. To schedule a drop-off, call ahead or email donate@rebuildingexchange.org.

ReUse Depot
50 W. Madison St., Maywood
708.223.0502
www.reusedepot.org
Open Daily 10-6

ReUse Depot's mission is to create a market for reclaimed building materials. It does this by diverting materials from landfills and making them accessible for reuse through its retail warehouse, by promoting sustainable deconstruction practices, by providing education and job training programs, and by creating innovative models for sustainable reuse.



Brown Elephant
217 Harrison St., Oak Park
708.445.0612

Accepts clothing, books, music, shoes, furniture, small electronics and more. Pick-up available. Accepts donations during operating hours only.

Salvation Army Thrift Store
6536 Roosevelt Rd., Oak Park
708.848.1181

Accepts donations of cameras, clothing, shoes, appliances, electronics, household items, furniture and more. For pick-up services, call 312.738.4367.



In Oak Park and River Forest: Cardboard may be recycled with your weekly pick-up if cut and flattened in three-foot by three-foot pieces.



In Oak Park: Each roll of carpeting must not weigh more than 50 pounds, be longer than four feet when folded over and have two pink stickers attached.

In River Forest: Each roll of carpeting must not weigh more than 50 pounds, be longer than four feet when folded over and have one Universal Waste Tag attached.

CDs & Tapes

See the **Media** category for more details.



(Mobile phones, pagers, etc.)

River Forest Village Hall collects used cell phones that are donated to seniors and Sarah's Inn. The drop box is located on the second floor near the reception desk during regular business hours.

River Forest Post Office and the Brookfield Zoo both offer mail-back programs for cell phones.

Apple Computer

www.apple.com/recycling

Apple's recycling program offers free and environmentally friendly disposal of iPods and cell phones with no purchase necessary. A pre-paid printable

label or a pre-paid mailer can be sent to your home. Items can also be brought into any Apple store.

Economy Shop

103 S. Grove Ave., Oak Park

708.383.2449

EconomyShop.org

Accepts clothing, shoes, some electronics including computers, small furniture, bikes, antiques, household goods, functioning cellular phones and more. Proceeds are given to local charities. See a detailed list on their web site. Open annually from August to June.

RadioShack

914 Madison St., Oak Park

708.848.0110

www.radioshack.com

Sprint

7404 W. North Ave., Elmwood Park

708.452.2400

Village of Oak Park

Public Works Department

201 South Blvd., Oak Park

708.358.5700

www.oak-park.us/publicworks



Do you have a stockpile of old cell phones sitting around the house? River Forest Village Hall collects used cell phones for donation, and several other local organizations and companies offer programs that dispose of cell phones in an environmentally-friendly manner.



Clothing & Other Items

This category includes resale and consignment shops, as well as charity groups. Some of these organizations provide pick-up services; call for more information.

Animal Care League's Resale Shop

808 Harrison St., Oak Park
708.383.9660

Accepts women's clothing, housewares in excellent condition, small furniture, gently used pet items, CDs and DVDs.

Brown Elephant

217 Harrison St., Oak Park
708.445.0612

Accepts clothing, shoes, books, music and more during open hours only. Pick-up available.

Carousel Thrift Shop

23 Calendar Ave., #207, La Grange
708.354.3803

Accepts clothing, jewelry, housewares, shoes and toys during operating hours only. No baby furniture, computers, TVs, lumber or appliances.

Divine Consign

809 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park
Oak Park, IL
708.386.3366

www.divineconsign.com

Accepts furniture and decorative household items.

Economy Shop

103 S. Grove Ave., Oak Park
708.383.2449

www.economyshop.org

Accepts clothing, some electronics including computers, small furniture, bikes, antiques, household goods, working cellular phones and more.

Salvation Army Thrift Store

6536 Roosevelt Rd., Oak Park

708.848.1181

Accepts clothing, shoes, appliances, electronics, household items, furniture and more.

Goodwill Store & Donation Center

1900 Harlem Ave.

North Riverside

708.442.3606

www.amazinggoodwill.com

Sugarcup Trading

110 N. Marion St., Oak Park

708.524.5336

www.sugarcuptrading.com

Kids can trade in their gently used clothes, toys and games for credit toward other items.

Trends

810 North Blvd., Oak Park

708.434.0801

www.trendsoakpark.com

Accepts high quality men's and women's clothing and accessories.

Clothing (Pick-up only)

AMVETS

708.388.7800

Purple Heart

708.396.8995

www.veteranpickup.org

Salvation Army

1.800.728.7825

www.donate.salvationarmyusa.org

The Epilepsy Foundation

Call 630.812.2460 or 1.855.968.3662 for free home donation pick-up or schedule online at www.donateillinois.org

Vietnam Veterans

www.charitypickupservice.com



The Village of Oak Park offers food scrap composting services to residents throughout the community. The cost is \$14 per month. Participants receive a special 96-gallon mobile cart for organics, an under-sink collection bucket and a box of compostable bags for food scraps.

Subscribers who use the organics cart for their yard waste and food scraps will not have to purchase yard waste stickers for grass clippings placed into the organics cart. Residents who maintain backyard compost piles or who mulch grass clippings are urged to investigate sharing organics carts and costs with neighbors. For more information, call 708.358.5700 or e-mail compostable@oak-park.us.

The Village of River Forest offers a voluntary subscription compost collection program. The cost is \$18 per month for a one-year contract. Residents who sign up for the program will receive a 64-gallon cart and an under-sink collection bucket. To sign up visit www.vrf.us/curbside-composting

More ideas and resources are available at www.chicagorecycling.org and www.epa.state.il.us.



Recycling old electronics is a simple and easy way to help the environment.



United Cerebral Palsy Association
332 Harison St., Oak Park
708.383.8887
ucpnet.org

The United Cerebral Palsy Association runs the Assistive Technology Exchange Network. Call for details and drop-off information.

Avenue Computer
159 S. Oak Park Ave.
708.948.7592
Avenuecomputer.net
Recycle computers, laptops, printers, tablets and accessories. LCD monitors \$40 each. TVs not accepted in-store but can be picked up from \$50 to \$120.

Chicago Home Hazardous Waste Facility
1150 N. North Branch St., (Goose Island), Chicago
Drop-off is the first Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Regular hours are 7 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and 2 to 7 p.m. Thursdays.

Computers for Schools
4734 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago
800.939.6000 or 773.583.7575
www.pcr.com
Provides affordable computer resources for education nationwide. Computers for School is a Chicago organization that accepts private and corporate computer donations. They also refurbish equipment and make them available to schools and other non-profit organizations. Free pick-up of 10 computers or more.

Dell Computers
www.dell.com/recycling
Offers a free program to collect and recycle its legacy products. Dell owners simply need to register their PCs and peripherals at the web site. They will then be issued a printable pre-paid shipping label

for home pick-up of the equipment by DHL. Dell also offers free recycling of a competitor's equipment with the purchase of a new Dell.

Hewlett-Packard
www.hp.com/recycle

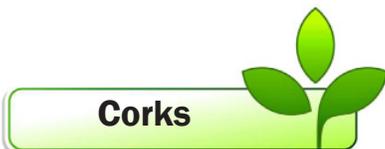
Accepts computer equipment, rechargeable batteries or HP printing supplies as a trade-in, return-for-cash, recycle, or donation. Go to their web site for further details.

Salvation Army Thrift Store
6536 W. Roosevelt Rd., Oak Park
708.848.1181

Accepts clothing, shoes, appliances, electronics, household items, furniture and more. No large TVs accepted.

Consignment Shops

See the ***Clothing & Other Items*** category for more details.



Whole Foods
7245 Lake St., River Forest
Drop corks in the box near the cheese counter.

DVDs

See the ***Media*** category for more details.



Electronics recycling has become a challenge in Illinois, as markets for materials have declined and event costs have risen. Unlike in past years, the Village of Oak Park now incurs costs to collect electronic items for recycling, as state collection goals have been met and finding for electronic processors has declined. The Public Works Department will host events as circumstances allow. Details on recycling events will be published in the OP/FYI newsletter and promoted via www.facebook.com/vopnews and www.twitter.com/vopnews. Electronic items that can be recycled include computers, peripherals, laptops, cell phones, rechargeable batteries, printers, fax machines, MP3 players, portable digital assistants, video game consoles, video cassette recorders/players, digital video disk players, zip drives, scanners and microwaves. The number of monitors and TVs may be limited at local events and staff will check for identification to ensure residents are served first. For more information call Public Works at 708.358.5700 or email publicworks@oak-park.us

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For Eyes Optical
409 N. Harlem Ave., Oak Park
708.358.2000

Accepts used eyeglasses that are recycled by the Lion's Club and given to those in need.

Kirk Eye Center
7427 Lake St., River Forest
708.771.3334

Accepts used eyeglasses that are recycled by the Lion's Club and given to those in need.

LensCrafters
7345 W. Lake St., River Forest
708.771.0769

Accepts used eyeglasses that are recycled by the Lion's Club and given to those in need.

LensCrafters
7153 Cermak Plaza, Berwyn
708.795.8585

Accepts used eyeglasses that are recycled by the Lion's Club and given to those in need.



GREEN FACTS
Get useless items out of your car. For every extra 100 pounds you carry around in your car, you reduce its gas mileage by one to two percent.

Rosin Eyecare
6233 Cermak Rd., Berwyn
708.749.2020

Accepts used eyeglasses that are recycled by the Lion's Club and given to those in need.

Rush Oak Park Hospital
520 S. Maple, Oak Park
708.660.2300

Accepts used eyeglasses and hearing aids that are recycled by the Lion's Club and given to those in need.

Village of Oak Park Public Works Center
201 South Blvd., Oak Park
708.358.5700

Accepts eyeglasses and hearing aids during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

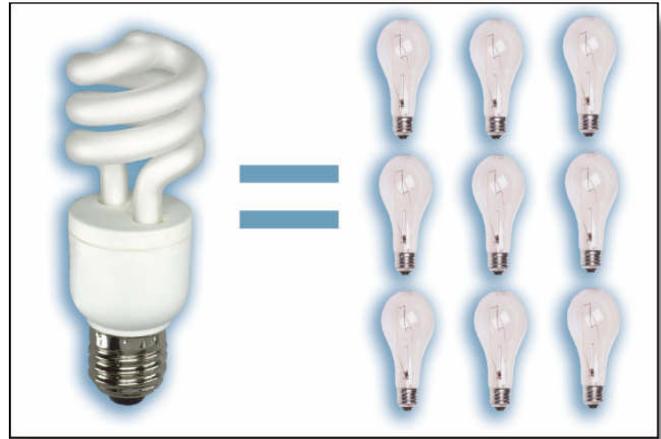


Check with the manufacturer of your fire extinguisher to see if they will accept it back for reuse. Otherwise, empty the extinguishers and dispose of them in your trash receptacle. Also, try www.freecycle.org or www.craigslist.org for other reuse options as well.



Chicago Home Hazardous Waste Facility
1150 N. North Branch St., (Goose Island), Chicago
Drop-off is the first Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Regular hours are 7 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and 2 to 7 p.m. Thursdays.

IKEA
1800 E. McConner Pkwy., Schaumburg
847.969.9700
ikea.com



Compact fluorescent bulbs are an effective way to save energy. Bulbs can also be disposed of at any IKEA store.

IKEA
750 E. Boughton Rd., Bolingbrook
888.888.4532
ikea.com

*Both IKEA stores accept mercury-containing bulbs for disposal.

Village of Oak Park Public Works Center
201 South Blvd., Oak Park
708.358.5700
Accepts intact CFLs only.



In Oak Park and River Forest: Only dispose of bottles and jars in your recycling cart. Mirrors, window panes and Pyrex must be discarded in your trash receptacle, ideally placed in a paper bag and sealed with tape to prevent injury.



GREEN FACTS
Turn your computer off when it's not in use. The average computer left on all day uses nearly 1,000 kilowatt hours of electricity a year – producing more than a ton of carbon emissions.



In Oak Park: Grills – excluding the propane tank – may be disposed of on your regular trash day with two pink stickers attached (see Pink Stickers for more information).

In River Forest: Bulk items will be picked up when there is a Universal Waste Tag attached to each item placed next to your garbage can for pick up on regular collection days. Stickers may be purchased at Village Hall, 400 Park Ave.; Jewel, 7525 Lake St.; Dressel's Hardware, 1137 Chicago, Oak Park; and Schauer Ace Hardware, 7449 W. Madison, Forest Park. For more information visit www.vrf.us/residents/refuse-a-recycling#recycling

See the **Metals** category for more details.



In addition to the following locations, dry cleaning bags can be recycled where ever plastic bags are accepted.

Bright Cleaners (a Certified Green Cleaner)
(customers only)
100 S. Kenilworth Ave., Oak Park
708.386.7700

Jinny Cleaners
321 Chicago Ave., Oak Park
708.524.9757

Oak River Cleaners
1112 Chicago Ave., Oak Park
708.386.4275

O'Connors Cleaners
(customers only, hangers in good condition)
1045 Chicago Ave., Oak Park
708.386.6767

P & J Cleaners
(hangers only)
238 Madison St., Oak Park
708.386.1200

Poly Cleaners
(hangers only)
600 Madison St., Oak Park
708.383.8400

Roosevelt Cleaners
(hangers only)
1137 Garfield St., Oak Park
708.445.9850

Sun Cleaners
6811 North Ave., Oak Park
708.383.1815

Zephyr Cleaners
(customers only)
130 Chicago Ave., Oak Park
708.848.8637

Dry cleaning bags can be recycled wherever plastic bags are accepted



Rush Oak Park Hospital
520 S. Maple Ave., Oak Park
708.660.2300

Accepts used eyeglasses and hearing aids that are recycled by the Lion's Club and given to those in need.

Village of Oak Park Public Works Center
201 South Blvd., Oak Park
708.358.5700

Accepts eyeglasses and hearing aids during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday - Friday.



GREEN FACTS
In 2015, 965 households and 18 institutions participated in the Village of Oak Park's food scrap collection program.



Chicago Household Hazardous Waste Facility
1150 N. North Branch St., Goose Island, Chicago
Drop-offs are 7 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and 2 to 7 p.m. Thursdays. The facility is also open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. the first Saturday of the month. The facility is closed holidays.

Naperville Household Hazardous Waste Facility
156 Fort Hill Dr., Naperville
Drop off is each Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, visit www.naperville.il.us/hhw.



Best Buy
www.bestbuy.com
Also accepts a wide variety of computers and electronics. See website for details.

Office Max (all locations)
www.officemax.com
Accepts ink jet and toner cartridges. Pays \$2 back per cartridge with reward card, for up to 10 cartridges.

Recycle Place
Accepts uncracked/reusable ink-jet, laser or toner cartridges for reuse. Pays for those cartridges and includes a postage-paid envelope.
www.recycleplace.com



GREEN FACTS
Oak Park has been designated a Platinum Community by Clean Air Counts, a regional initiative of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, City of Chicago and the Illinois EPA. The designation was based on Oak Park's demonstrated commitment to the environment.



In Oak Park: Lawnmowers may be disposed of on your regular trash day with two pink stickers attached (see Pink Stickers for more information).

In River Forest: Bulk items will be picked up when there is a Universal Waste Tag attached to each item placed next to your garbage can for pick up on regular collection days. Stickers may be purchased at Village Hall, 400 Park Ave.; Jewel, 7525 Lake St.; Dressel's Hardware, 1137 Chicago, Oak Park; and Schauer Ace Hardware, 7449 W. Madison, Forest Park. For more information visit www.vrf.us/residents/refuse-a-recycling#recycling

See the **Metal** category for more information.



License plates can be recycled at Illinois Department of Vehicles facilities. The closest facilities are:

Chicago West, 5301 W. Lexington St.

Melrose Park, 1903 N. Mannheim Rd.

Magazines

See the **Paper** category for more information.



Eagle Biomass
815.344.8777

Provides debris and waste removal recycling, hauling and clean-up services for residential and commercial sites for building developers and demolition contractors. Specializes in new construction sites.

Metro Junk Removal
1176 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park
708.280.9987
www.metrojunkremoval.net

1-800-Got-Junk?
www.1800gotjunk.com
Removal and recycling or proper disposal of your
unwanted items for a fee.



(CDs, DVDs, Software, Tapes & Videos)

Chicago Digital
905 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park
708.383.1870
Buys used CDs and DVDs of live concert perfor-
mances only made by the music industry.
No movies accepted.

GreenDisk
800.305.DISK
www.greendisk.com
Provides secured, audited disposal of intellectual
property stored on electronic media from CDs to
PCs and other techno trash. The resulting materials
then are used to manufacture the GreenDisk brand
line of office supplies. Works with both for-profit and
non-profit companies to create a national network of
service providers.

Oak Park Records
179 S Oak Park Ave., Oak Park
708.524.2880
Call for items currently accepted.

Val's Halla Records
239 Harrison St., Oak Park
708.524.1004
Buys vinyl albums. Call about other items.



All sharp objects (needles and other medical ob-
jects) may be stored in a non-recyclable hard-plastic
or metal container with a screw-on or tightly secured
lid, reinforced with heavy-duty tape. Label the con-
tainer "NOT FOR RECYCLING" and place into the re-
fuse container to be thrown out. For additional tips,
call the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
Hotline 800.553.7672. Soiled bandages, dispos-
able sheets and medical gloves should be placed in
securely fastened plastic bags then discarded in the
refuse container.

Oak Park Police Department
123 Madison St., lower level
708.386.3800
www.oak-park.us/police

The Oak Park Police Department maintains a pre-
scription drug disposal unit in the lobby of the main
police station. The disposal unit is available 24
hours a day. Needles (sharps), liquids and inhalers
are prohibited.

River Forest Village Hall
400 Park Ave.
708.366.8500

A pharmaceutical drop-box is located at River Forest
Village Hall inside the main doors, during normal
business hours Monday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Tues-
day through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Medications
should be in a sealed container or bag with all
personal information removed. Unacceptable items
include loose medications, liquid medicines (such
as cough syrup), hypodermics, sharps, biomed-
ical waste (including wound dressings), radioactive
medicines and other household hazardous waste.



G R E E N F A C T S
Reduce your energy bills by as much as
\$150 a year with a programmable thermo-
stat that adjusts the temperature when you
leave the house, go to sleep or go on vaca-
tion.

Medasend Mailback
800.200.3581
www.medasend.com

Medasend provides an Environmental Protection Agency approved mail-back waste service program, with no contracts to sign and training materials are available for the health care professionals. This program adheres to all OSHA regulations encouraging environmentally sound practices for waste recycling or disposal. Call or visit the web site for details and pricing information.



Chicago Recycling
8224 S. Vincennes Ave., Chicago
77.873.1600

Stainless steel, copper, brass and aluminum. Also takes computers, laptops and auto parts.

Central Metal Recycling
5618 W. Fillmore St., Chicago
773.345.8608

Stainless steel, copper, brass and aluminum. Also takes gas grills.

United Scrap Metal, Inc.
1545 S. Cicero Ave., Cicero
708.780.6800

www.unitedscrap.com
Accepts steel, aluminum, copper, stainless steel and brass. Donator receives a cash payment for items.

Windy City Metal Recycling
4617 W. Division St., Chicago
773.287.1500

Stainless steel, copper, brass, and aluminum.

Newspaper

See the **Paper** category for more information.

Packing Peanuts

See the **Styrofoam Packaging** category for info.



In Oak Park and River Forest: If the paint is usable, consider donating it to friends, family, neighbors, church groups, local theaters or handymen. Otherwise, remove the lid, let it dry and discard it separately. To speed up the drying process, add cat litter or wood chips. When the paint is completely dry throw the can in the trash container, not the recycling container.



Newspaper, magazines, shopping catalogs, office and school papers as well as mail can all be recycled at the green and yellow Abitibi Paper Retriever® bins. Abitibi Paper Retriever® is a community-based program with 25,000 collection points, including schools, churches and non-profit organizations. Abitibi-Consolidated Recycling Division pays these organizations for their paper recycling efforts and annually diverts 1.9 million tons of waste paper from landfills.

Schools have used the additional funds for scholarships, teaching aides and books and field trips. Churches and other nonprofits have sponsored missions, landscaping, maintenance projects and more. To locate the recycling container closet to your address, visit www.paperretriever.com

Paper drop-off locations (after school hours only)

Oak Park-River Forest High School
201 N. Scoville Ave., Oak Park (enter from Erie)

St. Catherine School
38 N. Austin Blvd., Oak Park



G R E E N F A C T S

In 2015, Village of Oak Park residents recycled 4,944 tons of items that otherwise would have ended up in a landfill.



Plastic Bags Shopping

Animal Care League
1013 Garfield St., Oak Park
708.848.8155
Accepts blankets, towels, animal toys and plastic bags for reuse.

Dollar Tree Stores
916 Madison St.
6405 North Ave.

Jewel Food Store (all locations)
438 Madison St., Oak Park
7036 Roosevelt Rd., Oak Park
7525 Lake St., River Forest

Target Stores (All locations)

Trader Joe's
483 N. Harlem Ave.

Prescription Drugs

See the **Medical Waste** category for more information.



Propane Tanks

Dressel's Ace Hardware
1137 Chicago Ave., Oak Park
708.386.6843
Sells propane and takes back empty tanks. Prefers tank exchanges.

Ferrell Gas
4809 Lake St., Melrose Park
708.343.8600
Sells and refills tanks. Takes back empty tanks.

Schauer Hardware
7449 W. Madison St., Forest Park



If those shoes still have life left in them, donate them to someone in need.

708.366.1100
Sells and exchanges propane in the tank only.

Resale Shops

See the **Clothing** category.

Shoes



Brown Elephant
217 Harrison St., Oak Park
708.445.0612
Accepts shoes, cameras, clothing, books, music and more during open hours only. Pick-up available.

Carousel Thrift Shop
23 Calendar Ave., #207, La Grange
708.354.3803
Accepts clothing, jewelry, housewares, shoes and toys.

Economy Shop
103 S. Grove Ave., Oak Park
708.383.2449
EconomyShop.org
Accepts clothing, shoes, some electronics including computers, small furniture, bikes, antiques, household goods, functioning cellular phones and more. Proceeds are given to local charities. See a detailed

list on their web site. Open annually from August to June.

Niketown
669 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago
312.642.6363
www.nikereuseashoe.com

Salvation Army Thrift Store
6536 W. Roosevelt Rd., Oak Park
708.848.1181
Accepts shoes, clothing, appliances, electronics, household items, furniture and more.



Residential smoke detectors contain a small amount of radioactive material. Because of this material, it is dangerous to simply throw your detector into a landfill. Proper disposal of your detector is available:

For First Alert or BRK:
Call First Alert at 800.323.9005

- o Be prepared with quantity and model number
- o After calling, send to: First Alert Disposal
3901 Liberty Street Aurora IL, 60504

For Other Brands: Curie Environmental in New Mexico will take any smoke detector back for a small fee

- o \$8 per detector (under 27 microcuries)
- o Specific instructions are available online at
www.curieservices.com

Each company takes apart the detectors to recycle the plastic and other re-usable materials. The radioactive material is then separated and sent to a landfill that is specially designed to take in radioactive waste.

Software

See the **Media** category.



Play It Again Sports
3939 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago
773.305.9900
www.playitagainsports.com
Trade in your quality used fitness equipment for something new, used or for cash.



Remove the plastic nozzles and caps and throw the empty cans in the recycling container.



Plastic polystyrene “peanuts” used for packaging are not recyclable but can be reused many times. Store them year-round in a dry, plastic bag and use them for holidays or gift giving.

FP International
16850 Canal St., Thornton
708.877.5180
fpintl.com
Accepts clean packing peanuts and Styrofoam shipping packaging for recycling into new products. Drop-off available or ship them to the above address with the package clearly marked “RECYCLING.”

Tapes

See the **Media** category.

Televisions

See the **Electronics** category.

Tires

See the **Automotive** category.



Towels

Animal Care League
1013 Garfield St., Oak Park
708.848.8155
Accepts blankets, towels, animal toys and plastic bags for reuse.



Toys Animal

Animal Care League
1013 Garfield St., Oak Park
708.848.8155
Accepts blankets, towels, animal toys and plastic bags for reuse.



Toys Children

Economy Shop
103 S. Grove Ave., Oak Park
708.383.2449
EconomyShop.org
Accepts clothing, shoes, some electronics including computers, small furniture, bikes, antiques, household goods, functioning cellular phones and more. Proceeds are given to local charities. See a detailed list on their web site. Open annually from August to June.



Transportation

Bike Sharing
Divvy is a bike share program with 13 stations in Oak Park. Divvy bikes are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, year round. For more information on pricing, membership and Oak Park locations, visit www.divvybikes.com.

Car Sharing
There are two car sharing programs in our community that allow you to reserve a car by the hour for one, all-inclusive price. Cars are located in lots throughout Oak Park. For more information on membership and Oak Park locations visit www.enterprise-carshare.com or www.zipcar.com.

Videos
See the **Media** category for more info.



GREEN FACTS

Think globally, buy locally. Choosing products that are harvested or made locally reduces transportation energy use and helps sustain your community's economy.



This guide is brought to you by the Village of Oak Park Public Works Department.

www.oak-park.us/publicworks

publicworks@oak-park.us

708.358.5700

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