Recycling in the Village of Wilmette

Please let your kids help with the recycling!

The following items are recyclable in the Village of Wilmette:

- All plastics stamped with a number 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 7 in the recycling symbol.
- **Aluminum foil/trays**, rinsed clean.
- Milk and juice cartons (gable top containers).
- **Juice boxes** (aseptic packaging). (Juice bags, however, are not recyclable.)
- Newspapers and all inserts, including glossies.
- Mixed paper and junk mail (envelopes with plastic address windows are accepted).
- Magazines, catalogs and telephone books.
- Corrugated cardboard and chipboard, i.e. boxes for frozen food and cereal boxes (flattened, no larger than 2' x 2').
- Aluminum and tin cans, rinsed clean.
- 6- and 12-pack rings.
- Steel cans and containers.
- Aerosol cans (empty).
- Glass bottles and jars, rinsed clean.
- Old car batteries (not cracked or leaking).
- Used motor oil (placed in a clear plastic jug).

Note that recyclables in Wilmette may be commingled in the recycling bins!

The following items are not recyclable in Wilmette:

- **Plastic bags** are not accepted for curbside recycling. However, many grocery stores accept plastic bags marked with a 2 or 4 in the recycling symbol, including many shopping bags, and bags used to package food and mail-order clothes.
- Soiled fiber materials (used paper towels, plates and pizza boxes) cannot be recycled.
- All caps and lids from containers or cans should be removed and discarded.

Other Recycling Resources

- McKenzie will be collecting the following items during the 2009-2010 school year, and the school gets money back for some of these items:
 - Juice bags (not juice boxes; they can be recycled at the curb).
 - Used printer cartridges.
 - Old cell phones.
 - Crayons.
- Our Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County at www.swancc.org/greenPages/greenpages.html has an abundance of information about items that you might not know could be recycled, such as CDs and cosmetic containers.
- ComEd will remove your old appliances and pay you \$25 for them. See www.comed.com.
- www.freecycle.org has networks of people who give away items that they cannot use to someone who can. Members can also request items that they need. Wilmette has a local group, as do many towns around our country. Examples of items from Wilmette's freecycle: new printer cartridges that were purchased in the wrong size, National Geographic Kids magazines, furniture, grills, and Ravinia tickets.
- Carpeting, holiday lights, and many other items might have more life in them. See <u>www.realsimple.com/home-organizing/organizing/tips-techniques/recycle-anything-00000000006117/index.html.</u>
- The Village of Wilmette has information about how to safely dispose of prescription medicines, CFLS, small electronics, automotive materials, computers, and chemicals. See www.wilmette.com/departments/greeninitiatives/recycling.aspx.
- <u>www.terracycle.net/brigades</u> will pay schools to collect cookie wrappers, juice bags, soda bottles, yogurt containers, toasted chips bags, corks, Energy Bar wrappers, and Bear Naked bags.
- Crayons can be reused through www.crazycrayons.com.
- Elmer's Glue bottles and sticks can be recycled. www.Elmersgluecrew.com.
- "Pre-cycling" (buying items that are made from recycled materials and/or that can be recycled when you are finished with them) and "un-shopping" (deciding to shop less, or buying things without excessive packaging) are even better than just recycling.