

THE TRUTH ABOUT RECYCLING

The amount of municipal waste being collected in America has reached over 400 million tons to date. In 1980 America recycled only 9.6% of this waste. Today the rate stands at over 50%. Is it worth it? By all means! Researchers have found that it is indeed better for the environment. It conserves natural resources, reduces landfill space, saves energy and raw materials, and reduces pollution. Recycled materials reduce the need to mine ores, cut trees, and drill for as much oil. Chicago has made the process easier for us recently. Blue Bins have been provided, and recycled material no longer needs to be sorted. All goes to a central facility to be sorted, packaged, and sold. This new technology also provides jobs and adds to our economy. Besides using our Blue Bins, there are many other resources available to recycle larger and more toxic materials, such as

- Glenview Village has drop off for used **needles and drugs** each month on the first Friday of the month. They are open 9:00 to 5:00. The address is 2500 East Lake Street (Lake Street and Shermer, Glenview, IL. Phone number: 1-847-724-9200. You can also contact a local Police Headquarters.
- Staples office supply stores have **shredding** available every day. The cost is \$1/pound.
- **Batteries and light bulbs**; Home Depot.
- Frank Marquez will take **paperback books** only for donation to women's prisons.
- **Building materials**; the ReBuilding Exchange, 3335 W. 47th St., Chicago, 773-847-3761.
- **Nylon carpets**; Carpet Recovery, www.carpetrecovery.org; or Shaw Carpets, www.shawfloors.com.
- **Cell phones, computers, household chemicals, oil paint and motor oil, pesticides**: the City of Chicago at 1150 N. North Branch St., Chicago, www.cityofchicago.org/hccrf, or Earth911.com.
- **Latex paint**; earthpaintscs.com.
- **Eyeglasses**: Lion's Club International, all LensCrafters.
- **Golf Balls**: Elmhurst Park District, 225 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, 630-993-8933, www.dixongolf.com.
- **Empty spray cans**: chicagorecycles.org.
- **Text Books**: Reading Tree: Books for Charity, www.readingtree.org.

Contact Earth911.com for the following materials:

Christmas/string lights, DVDs, Tyvek/UPS/FedEx envelopes, hangers, ink cartridges, iPods, car batteries, tires, working vehicles, and much more. Just tell them what you want to recycle and give them your zip code. They will suggest a site as close to your neighborhood as possible.