

# [Almost] Everything you need to know to recycle in Chicago (right now!)

**For your convenience, we have compiled Chicago's most important recycling resources into two handy pages. Feel free to copy (two-sided!) and share with friends and neighbors – and start recycling today!**

More than ever before, Chicagoans have the opportunity to properly and effectively recycle much of their waste. The new resources available signify a major shift in city policy, and are due in part to the long-term advocacy work of the Chicago Recycling Coalition. Our ultimate goal is for the city and private haulers to provide clean, separate recycling and yard waste collection to every Chicago household, but the programs listed below provide a sound basis for further expansion.

## Recycling Drop-Off Centers in Chicago

The following 15 drop-off recycling cen-

### City of Chicago Drop-Off Centers

**City Facility Campus**, 1424 W. 39th St.

**Near South**, 1758 S. Clark

**Calumet Park Beach**, 9801 S. Avenue G

**Auburn Gresham**, 7811 S. Racine

**Household Products & Electronics**

**Collection Center**, 1150 N. North Branch

**Chicago Center for Green Technology**,  
445 N. Sacramento

**North Lawndale**, 1817 S. Pulaski

**West Pullman**, 11615 S. Indiana

**Pasteur Park**, 5825 S. Kostner

**Marquette Park**, 6734 S. Kedzie

**Riis Park**, 6110 W. Fullerton

**Portage Park**, 4243 N. Neenah

**Kosciuszko Park**, 2732 N. Avers

**Rainbow Park**, 3111 E. 77th St.

**Far North Side**, 6441 N. Ravenswood

ters were set up by the City of Chicago, Department of Streets and Sanitation in the fall of 2006. All locations are open seven days a week during daylight hours. Acceptable materials: paper, cardboard, aluminum and steel cans, and plastic and glass bottles. All materials can be mixed together. Not acceptable: food waste, yard trimmings, plastic bags, Styrofoam, and plate glass. For more details, see the city's website at [www.bluecartschicago.com](http://www.bluecartschicago.com). (Just don't believe all the blue-bag hype.)

The following drop-off recycling centers have been serving the Chicago community for many years. Some collect paper only, others, beverage containers as well. For more details, see our website at [www.chicagorecycling.org](http://www.chicagorecycling.org) and click on "Recycling in Chicago | Where Can I Recycle? | Sites Serving Individuals."

### Private & Not-for-Profit Centers

**Huron Paper\***, 2545 W. Fulton

*M-F 7am-3pm*

**Recycle Plus\*\***, 1334 N. Kostner (in alley in back)

*M-Th 6am-3pm, F 6am-noon*

**Recycling Services\***, 3301 W. 48th Pl.

*M-F 7am-10pm, Sa 7-11am*

**Resource Center - North Park Village\*\***, 5801 N. Pulaski

*M-Su 9am-5pm*

**Resource Center – Railyard**, 1325 E. 70th St.

*M-Su 9am-3pm*

**Resource Center – Wrightwood**, 2600 N. Lincoln

(by the 7-Eleven). *Open 24/7 (gate sometimes closed)*

**Resource Center-Uptown Recycling**, 4716 N. Sheridan

*7am-7pm (Closed Wed. & Sun.)*

**Smurfit Recycling\***, 626 E. 111 St.

*M-F 6am-3pm*

*\*Accept only paper and cardboard; no bottles or cans*

*\*\*Only drop-off locations that accept plastic bottles*

## Chicago's Blue-Cart Recycling Program

Over the next eight months, Chicago's Department of Streets and Sanitation will be expanding its successful 19th Ward recycling pilot by placing large blue recycling carts behind every single-family home and apartment building (up to four units) in seven wards. One city truck will collect clean, separate recycling every two weeks; another will collect yard waste (to be placed in paper or plastic bags) every week for eight months a year; and a third will pick up the garbage – again weekly.

**NOTE:** Both Chicago's blue-cart and drop-off recycling programs are “**single stream.**” This means that paper, cardboard, cans, and bottles can be co-mingled; it is the same system used by most other cities from San Francisco and Seattle to Evanston and Oak Park. It is NOT the same as mixing recycling with garbage!

The city has designated the wards below to receive the first bins. If you don't live in

### Blue-Cart Installation 2007 Schedule

| Ward  | Installation Month |
|---|--------------------|
| 19th Ward (in addition to the original pilot) | February           |
| Wards 5 & 8                                   | April              |
| Wards 1 & 37                                  | June               |
| Wards 46 & 47                                 | August             |

one of these, tell your alderman you want to be next on the expansion list!!

## Household Hazardous Waste Disposal & Computer and Cell Phone Recycling

It's “one-stop” drop-off now for these items, as the city has opened its first permanent facility to accept these materials. The location is on Goose Island at 1150 N. North Branch (off of Division Street).

Open for drop-offs: Tuesdays, 7am-12pm; Thursdays, 2pm-7pm; first Saturday each month 8am-2pm.

Materials accepted include: Antifreeze,

motor oil, gasoline, oil-based paints, thinners, spray paint, herbicides, insecticides, pesticides, cleaning and hobby chemicals, fluorescent lamps, bulbs, and mercury. Also: computers and cell phones.

Other electronics (TV's, DVD's, etc.) as well as all the materials listed above will still be accepted at city-run special collection days. For a full, updated listing, see the website of the Illinois EPA at: <http://www.epa.state.il.us/land/hazardous-waste/household-haz-waste/> and click on “Collection Schedule.”

## Household Battery Recycling

Chicago has also initiated a citywide program to collect your spent batteries, including disposable and rechargeable. No car batteries, please.

### Battery Collection Sites

(Look for the clear plastic tubes)

83 Chicago Public Libraries

114 Walgreen's Drug Stores

## Web Resource Summary

### Chicago Recycling Coalition:

[www.chicagorecycling.org](http://www.chicagorecycling.org)

### City of Chicago Recycling Site:

[www.bluecartschicago.com](http://www.bluecartschicago.com)

### Illinois EPA HHW Info:

[www.epa.state.il.us/land/hazardous-waste/household-haz-waste/](http://www.epa.state.il.us/land/hazardous-waste/household-haz-waste/)



## Chicago Recycling Coalition

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