

## Avoiding the Landfill in La Grange Park

This guide is intended to find ways to recycle, reuse, and/or dispose of items safely in the La Grange Park area.

Press the Control button and the "F" button at the same time to open the find function to search for keywords within the document.

### **Municipal Recycling Service Provider:** Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS)

Per their website: LRS operates without owning a landfill. Instead they choose to stay innovative by increasing waste diversion rates and sending significantly less waste to landfills. Below is a list of common items that can be put in the LRS recycling toter. Please check the LRS website for the most current information.

#### Paper/Cardboard

- |                    |                                      |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| - Magazines        | - Cereal or other food boxes (clean) |
| - Catalogs         | - Junk mail & envelopes              |
| - Telephone books  | - Mixed paper                        |
| - Brown paper bags | - Glossy brochures                   |
| - Cardboard boxes  | - Milk, soup, or juice cartons       |

#### **DO NOT TRY TO RECYCLE THESE PAPER ITEMS:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| - Paper plates or boxes dirty with food | - Frozen food boxes (mix of paper & plastic) |
| - Paper towels, napkins, or tissues     | - Paper Cups (mix of paper & plastic)        |
| - Shredded paper                        | - Waxed paper or cardboard                   |

#### Metal

- |                      |                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| - Aluminum Cans      | - Steel/Tin food cans & lids |
| - Aluminum Foil      | - Clean paint cans & lids    |
| - Pie Plates & trays | - Empty aerosol cans         |

#### **DO NOT TRY TO RECYCLE THESE METAL ITEMS:**

- |                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| - Utensils      | - Wire Hangers     |
| - Propane Tanks | - Small appliances |

#### Glass

- Bottles or jars (all colors)

#### **DO NOT TRY TO RECYCLE THESE GLASS ITEMS:**

- |              |               |                    |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|
| - Windows    | - Ceramics    | - Drinking Glasses |
| - Auto glass | - Mirrors     |                    |
| - Bakeware   | - Light Bulbs |                    |

Plastic

- Soda/water bottles (w/ caps)
- Milk Containers
- Toiletry/Beauty-Aid Bottles
- Laundry Detergent Bottles
- Margarine/Butter Tubs (clean)
- Misc. tubs/bottles/jugs

**DO NOT TRY TO RECYCLE THESE PLASTIC ITEMS:**

- Bags (grocery, snack/chip, cereal, etc.)
- Film, shrink wrap (e.g. Saran wrap)
- Empty motor oil or chemical bottles
- Styrofoam (see below)

Below is a way to recycle a number of miscellaneous items that LRS will not recycle.

Styrofoam: First Saturday of every month in the parking lot of the Western Springs recreation center (noted "Safety Village Garage" below)

1500 Walker Street, Western Springs, IL

All block Styrofoam and clean Styrofoam food containers are accepted.

**NO PEANUTS PLEASE!** Peanuts may be taken to your local packing and shipping store to be recycled.



Kids Car Seats: Target stores have a twice per year car seat trade-in / recycling event. Check their website for specific dates (search "target car seat recycling") because it may change from year to year. Generally the event is in late April and again in September. The event lasts about two weeks so put it on your calendar. You can just drop it off and recycle it or you can trade in the car seat for a coupon to get a discount on a new car seat at Target.

<https://corporate.target.com/corporate-responsibility/planet/sustainable-products/car-seat-trade-in>

Clothing/Textiles: At H&M (closest store is at the Oak Brook mall) you can drop off old clothes & textiles, even if they are not useable anymore. Each time you bring something in they will give you a 15% coupon to the store.

<https://about.hm.com/en/sustainability/Recyclingandgarmentcare/recycle-your-clothes.html>

Shoes: Nike Store, in strip mall just west of Costco in Oak Brook, they accept any brand of athletic shoes, **but they're unable to recycle sandals, dress shoes, boots or shoes with metal (like studs or spikes).**

Reuse-A-Shoe program, <https://www.nike.com/gb/help/a/recycle-shoes>

Old Bicycles: The Wheel Thing in La Grange Park (417 N. La Grange Rd) takes old bikes and/or bike parts and gives them to Working Bikes (<https://www.workingbikes.org/>)

Plastic Bags/film packaging: At the entrance to many grocery or big box stores (Jewel, Mariano's, Target, etc.) there are receptacles for plastic bags/film for recycling.

Electronics: Many electronics retailers such as Best Buy will take used electronics, cables, etc. and recycle them. Often there will be a charge for taking LCD screens. However Goodwill (3054 S Wolf Rd, Westchester, IL 60154) will take LCDs at no charge.

Goodwill: Goodwill takes many different new or used items. Search "Goodwill Donation Guidelines" and their website will give a comprehensive list.

Refrigerators/Appliances: ComEd will come to your house, haul away your old refrigerator or freezer that is more than 15 years old, recycle it, and pay you \$50. Some restrictions apply and they are detailed on the ComEd website, search "ComEd refrigerator"

Many appliance retailers, such as Best Buy, or Abt, will haul away and recycle your appliances if you purchase new from them. Policies vary widely, so verify any charges or restrictions prior to finalizing your decision.

Food Scraps: Try composting! The village has a separate document on their website about composting and the internet is another great resource of information.

Batteries: Disposal of batteries depends on the type. LRS has the following information on their website:

<https://www.lrsrecycles.com/tips-for-the-proper-disposal-of-batteries/>

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County's website has the following info:

<https://www.swancc.org/batteries>

Is there anything you want to see here? Please contact La Grange Park Sustainability Commission member Joe Pawasarat ([jjpawasarat@gmail.com](mailto:jjpawasarat@gmail.com)) and he will do his best to investigate your inquiry and add it to the list.