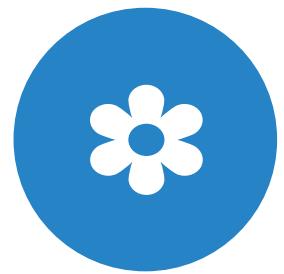




VILLAGE OF  
PORT BARRINGTON  
SUSTAINABILITY  
PROGRAMS &  
INITIATIVES

IMPLEMENTED IN  
PARTNERSHIP WITH  
SWALCO





REDUCE



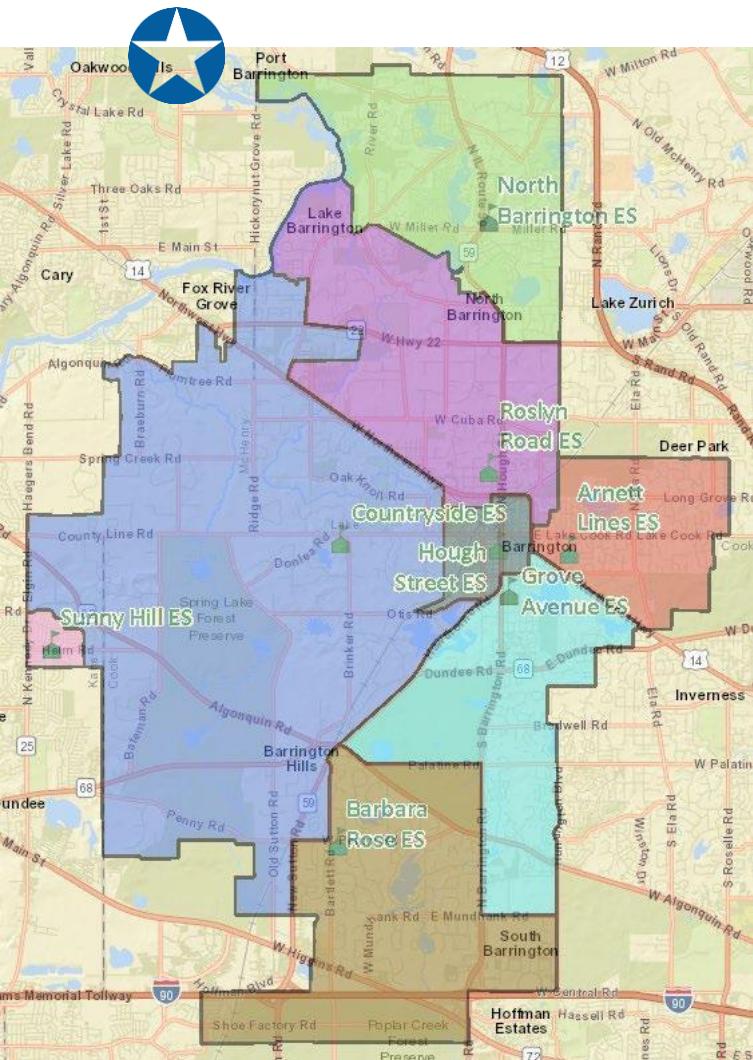
REUSE



RECYCLE



REIMAGINE



Port Barrington, Illinois



★Designed by TownMapsUSA.com







## Friendly by Nature

The Village of Port Barrington is a small town nestled in the Fox River Valley (pop. 1517, 2010 Census.) Established in 1927 and Incorporated in 1969, the Village of Port Barrington changed its name from Fox River Valley Gardens in 2003. This recreational community, located in both [Lake](#) and [McHenry](#) Counties, has walking, biking and snowmobile trails, boating, fishing, and several parks and marinas within its boundaries. The Fox River Preserve of the Lake County Forest Preserve is also within the boundaries of Port Barrington, offering its own marina, pavilions, and connecting trails for more outdoor enjoyment.

[Read More](#)

### **Holiday lights kaput? Recycle them at the Village Hall....**

 December 29, 2025

Bring your holiday lights that no longer work to the Village Hall to recycle them! ...

### **New 2026 Meeting Calendar Posted -Updated 12/17/2025**

 December 15, 2025

The Village Board of Trustees approved the 2026 meeting calendar. Their meetings will be on ...

### **Recycle Coach – Now Available in Port Barrington!**

 December 11, 2025

The Village of Port Barrington is excited to join the Recycle Coach network. For residents ...

[Read More](#)

# Clothing & Textile Collection Program

Reuse & Recycling



# Clothing & Textile Collection Program

## Reuse & Recycling

*New & Gently Used Items  
Donated for Reuse  
are Tax-Deductible*

### Fox Trail Park

*(Located at the end of Willow Road, off Roberts Road)*

*Established March 2024*



## Village of Port Barrington & SWALCO

Village of Port Barrington hosts a Clothing & Textile Collection Program drop-off at Fox Trail Park. (Located end of Willow Rd, off Roberts Rd)

### CLOTHING & TEXTILE COLLECTION

All Sizes Men's, Women's & Children/New & Gently used donations are tax-deductible

#### CLOTHING

- Blouses & Shirts
- Coats & Jackets
- Costumes (including Halloween)
- Dresses & Skirts
- Jeans
- Pajamas
- Pants
- Pet Clothing
- Shorts
- Socks
- Suits & Tuxedos
- Sweaters
- Sweat Pants, Shirts & Sweatsuits
- Swimsuits
- Undergarments
- Vests
- Yoga/Exercise/Workout clothing

#### ACCESSORIES

- Backpacks (Soft)
- Belts
- Duffel Bags (Soft)
- Handbags
- Hats
- Purses
- Scarves
- Ties
- All-Plush Dolls & Toys
- Soft Stuffed Animals

#### TEXTILES

- Bedspreads
- Blankets
- Comforters & Duvets
- Curtains & Drapes
- Sheets
- Sofa & Furniture Covers
- Tablecloths & Linens
- Towels & Washcloths
- Quilts



**NO** Wet or odorous materials. No pillows, fabric scraps/pieces, vinyl shower curtains or vinyl furniture covers, rugs, carpets, mattresses, etc.



*SHOES: Drop-off shoes separately. Village of Port Barrington is a Year-round Reuse-a-Shoe drop-off site. Drop shoes off at the Village Hall during business hours.*



# Village of Port Barrington CTC Volume History

Fox Trail Park, Port Barrington, IL 60010

***Implemented & Launched March 2024***

## Clothing & Textile Collection

### **2025**

Q3 2025            978 pounds

Q2 2025            796 pounds

Q1 2025            1,030 pounds

Total for the first 3 quarters of 2025:            **2,804 pounds**

### **2024**

10 months (March through December)

Total 2024:            **2,301 pounds;**

Monthly Average: 230 pounds

**TOTAL Volume from 2024-Current 2025:**            **5,105 pounds**



**And, you are part of the larger collective.**

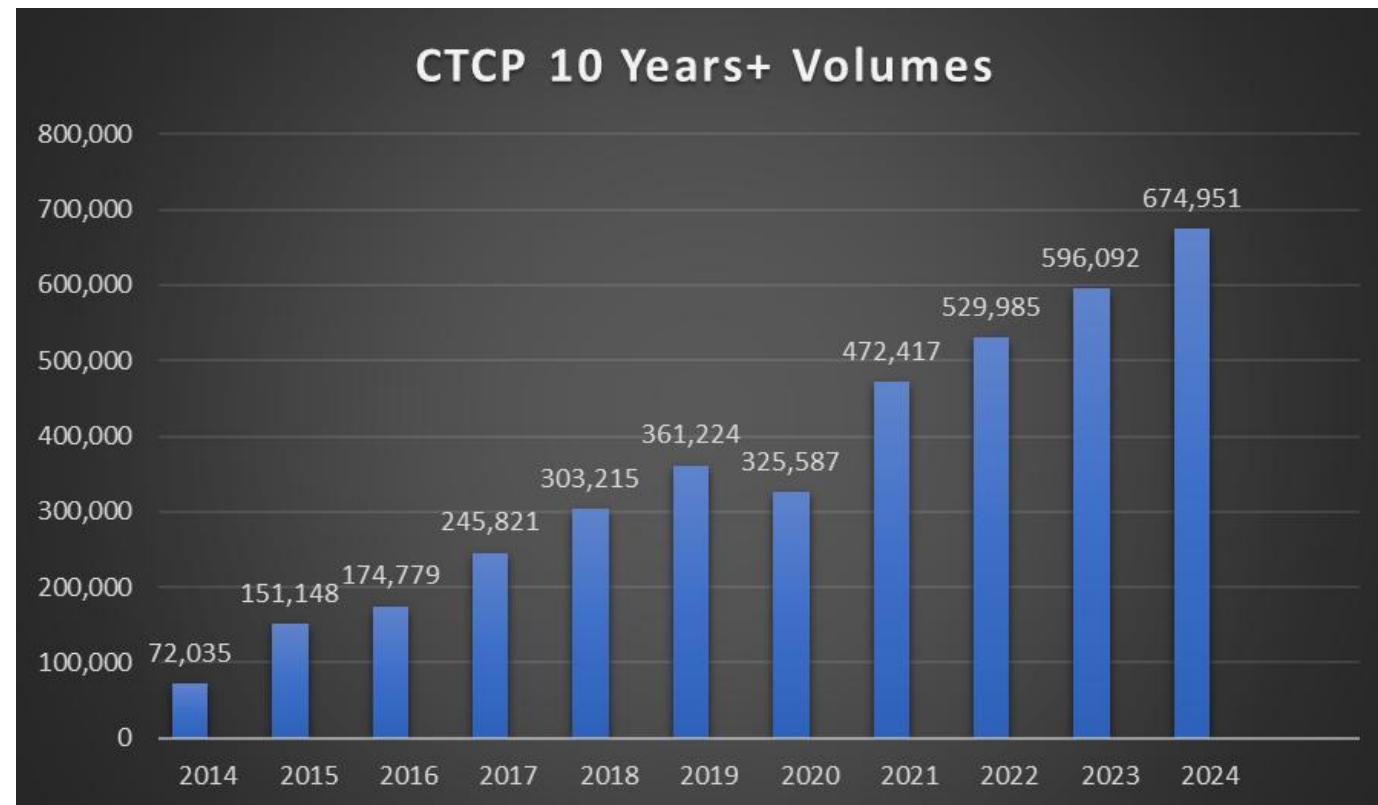
### **Diversion Stats/Program Volumes from 2014 to 2024**

(This is for the year-round collection container/bin program only. It does not include Reuse-a-Shoe footwear volumes, or special events like Reuse-O-Ramas, or other special collections, drives, and contests. Please note COVID did affect operations, and many sites shut down for periods during that time. *Noting too, that these are basically/primarily light weight products and materials, so a tremendous volume of materials were diverted responsibly.*

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>POUNDS</b>
2014	72,035 lbs.
2015	151,148
2016	174,779
2017	245,821
2018	303,215
2019	361,224
2020	325,587
2021	472,417
2022	529,985
2023	596,092
2024	674,951

**TOTAL 10 Years+ Volume: 3,907,254 lbs.**

### **CLOTHING & TEXTILE COLLECTION PROGRAM**



# Reuse-a-Shoe



# REUSE-A-SHOE

Athletic Shoes, Dress & Fashion Shoes/Boots, Crocs, Casual Shoes, Cleats, Children's Shoes (include light-ups),

Work Shoes & Boots, Hiking Boots, Slippers, Loafers, Rain Boots, Crocs, Sandals, Flip-flops, Clogs, & more.

**PLEASE TIE SHOE LACES IF YOU HAVE LACES, IF NOT,  
RUBBER BAND OR ZIP-TIE PAIRS TOGETHER.**

**ALL SIZES, ALL BRANDS & ALL CONDITIONS ACCEPTED—**

**NEW, GENTLY WORN, USED, OR WORN.**

*The only footwear not accepted:*

*Moldy or wet shoes, Sole-less shoes, Ice Skates, Rollerblades*

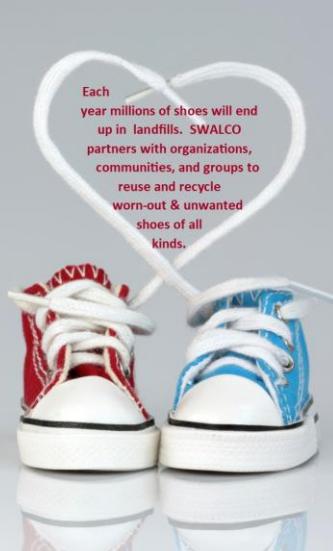
**REUSE THOSE  
SHOES HERE!!!**

This Collection Site Hosted by:

VILLAGE OF  
**Port Barrington**



For more information on SWALCO's  
Reuse-A-Shoe program, contact  
Merleanne Rampale at SWALCO,  
847-377-4950 or visit [www.swalco.org](http://www.swalco.org).



Each year millions of shoes will end up in landfills. SWALCO partners with organizations, communities, and groups to reuse and recycle worn-out & unwanted shoes of all kinds.

## Reuse-a-Shoe from 2018-2024

**Reuse-a-Shoe Totals 2018-2024: 854 lbs.**

**Sneak Peek ahead 2025:**

**Quarter 2 (June) 75 lbs. + Quarter 1 (February) 39 lbs. in 2025 = 114 lbs.**

**Total Recorded Volume to Date: 968 lbs.**

# Reuse-A-Shoe Drop-off at Village Hall



According to the U.S. Department of the Interior, Americans throw away at least 300 million pairs of shoes each year.

According to USAID (U.S. Agency for International Development), that's the same number of children who've never owned a pair.

Based on average shoe weights, that's equivalent to the weight of approximately 600,000 female Jersey Cows – that's well over 1/2 million cows weighing in at about 1,000 pounds each!

*Can you imagine how much room that would take up in our landfill? Shoes that end up in landfills can take approximately 30 to 40 years or more to break down or decompose.*



Hello





Total Reuse-a-Shoe volume for Village of Port Barrington 2018 to current is **968 lbs.** pounds of footwear (includes first 3 quarters of 2025).... That's the weight of approximately 10 sun bears!

Diverted responsibly  
for Reuse & Recycling  
– kept from landfills  
which produce GHG  
emissions.

## GRAND TOTALS

**TOTAL FOR CLOTHING/TEXTILES  
W/SHOES COMBINED:**  
5,105 pounds + 968 pounds =  
6,073 POUNDS

That is equivalent to 3.0365 US Tons!!!

*This report was  
created  
December  
2025.*

# Village of Port Barrington SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS

Historical Recorded Data  
Available through first  
3 quarters of 2025



**Bee-utiful Port Barrington is a Bee City USA! Visit the Village Hall Raingardens and Bee Habitat! Buy “Bee Safe” Plants for your gardens!**

The Village Board of Port Barrington voted in 2020 to accept certification as a Bee City USA. The Board’s action was is the culmination of months of effort by a committee dedicated to aid in the preservation of pollinators by providing them with a healthy habitat rich in a variety of native plants and free of insecticides. Pollinators such as bumble bees, honey bees, butterflies, moths, beetles, dragonflies, hummingbirds and many others are responsible for the production of almost **ninety percent of the world’s flowering plant species and one in every three bites of food we consume!** The Village is proud that these gardens support the mission to increase our pollinator population and to educate others on the ways they can also become engaged.



#### **Village Hall Rain Garden and Bee Habitat**

With monies in part from a grant awarded to the Village project entitled “Village Hall Rain Garden and Bee Habitat” will soon be finished! As you can see with a visit to the Village Hall, this project converts a patch of former asphalt and culvert into a bountiful bee & butterfly nectar bar! There are native plantings incorporated in the project that will help draw rainwater back into the ground quickly as it filters out pollutants such as oil and road salt residues from the parking lot. Formerly these pollutants head through a storm sewer draining to Hermann Park Pond. For a list of native plantings that you can use to support water purification and soil stability, contact the Village Hall! Once established native plants are virtually maintenance free....and our pollinators will thank you! ***This project is supported by generous funding from ComEd and Openlands!!*** [www.openlands.org](http://www.openlands.org)

*The Village & SWALCO have worked on many environmental initiatives, events, programs and projects together for our residents and community.*

Other work together over the years has included a variety of community events and initiatives, working with Village staff and Trustees on projects like electronics recycling, proper curbside recycling, promotion of HCW (Household Chemical Waste) events, shredding events and the annual Spring clean-ups.

# Recycle First, Trash Last

In Lake County,  
**First  
things  
first...**



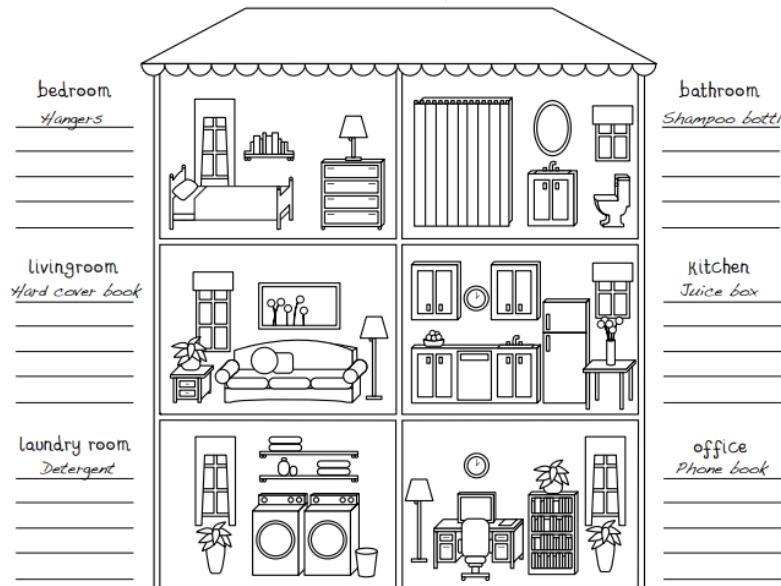
[RecycleFirstTrashLast.org](http://RecycleFirstTrashLast.org)

## First things first:

There are recyclables in every room of your house. The first thing you have to do is know they are there. This chart makes it easy! List 5 things in each room that your family should recycle. Then color in the house and hang it in your kitchen to remind everyone!

If you need help with listing items for some of the rooms, or want to see the whole list of what IS and IS NOT recyclable in Lake County, visit

[RecycleFirstTrashLast.org](http://RecycleFirstTrashLast.org)



WHAT'S LEFT  
OVER AFTER  
RECYCLING?



[RecycleFirstTrashLast.org](http://RecycleFirstTrashLast.org)

## Online Toolkit

- Campaign creative materials available for download:
  - 30-second radio ad
  - Online banner and cube ads
  - Commuter bus tail ad
  - Posters
  - Bill stuffer
  - Direct mail
- Recycling guidelines flyer
- Kids coloring page
- Magnet
- Event display
- Sticker
- T-shirt
- Truck cling

**SOLID WASTE AGENCY OF LAKE COUNTY, IL**

**Village of Port Barrington** was one of the leaders in the **Recycle First, Trash Last** Campaign 2012-2013. They were one of a dozen municipalities that incorporated this into community events and lead educational efforts to help people recycle right, using a special toolkit that was created and offered by SWALCO, as well as special street teams to help distribute information and build enthusiasm more widely at events.

**RECYCLE FIRST, TRASH LAST**  
**21 TARGETED COMMUNITIES**

The campaign will reach all SWALCO communities, but with added focus on communities with an annual per household recycling tonnage between 350-700 pounds. These communities include:

- Port Barrington (349 lbs/household)
- Beach Park (351)
- North Chicago (394)
- Lake Villa (512)
- Vernon Hills (567)
- Round Lake Park (569)
- Highwood (596)
- Wauconda (602)
- Round Lake Heights (630)
- Antioch (632)
- Round Lake (637)
- Lake Barrington (639)
- Island Lake (642)
- Tower Lakes (659)
- Winthrop Harbor (666)
- Lincolnshire (670)
- Round Lake Beach (672)
- Gurnee (686)
- Hainesville (693)
- Warren Township (696)
- Unincorporated Areas (418)



Learn how to give  
your trash can  
the short end  
of the stick.

 SWALCO

Learn [more](#) at [RecycleFirstTrashLast.org](http://RecycleFirstTrashLast.org)

## MEMBER OR GROUP REQUESTS FOR STREET TEAMS & KITS FOR COMMUNITY EVENTS 2012-2013

Green = Kit and Team; Blue = Kit only

### 1. Port Barrington Garden Party Saturday, September 15, 2012 (Kit and Team)

1:00-5:00 pm

Hermann Park (by the Village Hall)  
Port Barrington, IL

Expect 100+ people of all ages.

Will have staffed recycling info booth that team can direct people to. Annual recreational events in Port Barrington include the summer Garden Party which is held in Hermann Park (the park by the Village Hall) featuring food, games, raffles and live music; holiday parties for children. Contact: Donna Erfert

## Recycling Guidelines for Lake County, IL

*Also Available in Spanish*

# RECYCLING GUIDELINES

**YES!**



**NO!**



To find out more about recycling in Lake County, Illinois, or what you can do with items not accepted in your recycling cart (including other recycling and reuse programs), visit [swalco.org](#) or contact SWALCO at 847-377-4950.

December 2025



Historical  
Promotional  
Materials  
for HCW  
Program

*Village of Port  
Barrington helped  
promote Mobile HCW  
Events in their region  
to residents.*



**SWALCO's**

**Household Chemical Waste Collections**

**www.swalco.org 847-336-9340**

**Residents now have **2** ways to dispose of their Household Chemical Waste:**

- 1) Year round Collection Events held at SWALCO's permanent facility** located at 1311 N. Estes St. in Gurnee (map & directions online). The year round program offers collections multiple times per month, including the second Saturday of each month. Appointments are required. Make your appointment online at [www.swalco.org](http://www.swalco.org) (under the HCW page) or call 847-336-9340.
- 2) Mobile Events** held at various locations throughout Lake County from April through November. No appointments required.

**Accepted materials include:**

- Fertilizers / Herbicides / Pesticides
- Fluorescent Light Bulbs/CFLs
- Household Cleaners
- Household Batteries
- Oil Based Paints / Paint Remover / Varnishes
- Old Gasoline and Motor Oil
- Pool Chemicals
- Unwanted Prescription and Over the Counter Medicines and Supplements

***Latex Paints & Household Electronics not accepted***

All HCW events sponsored by SWALCO (the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County), are free for Illinois residents. If you have questions or would like to learn more about SWALCO collections and programs, call 847-336-9340 or visit our website. **Sign up online for our e-list service** announcing upcoming events, programs and other information.

**SWALCO**  
SOLID WASTE AGENCY OF LAKE COUNTY, IL



The Village of Port Barrington has been on the Board of Directors of our Agency since 1991.

The Village and its Staff has been an integral part of propelling our programs into households across Lake County and we thank them for their continuing efforts.



Learn how to make better disposal decisions, find your local waste and recycling info, and see your pick-up calendar. All at your fingertips. Use the "What Goes Where" search tool to check sorting info, find drop-off locations, and send wish-cycling behaviors to the curb. Use the widget or download the Recycle Coach app and use the calendar tool to find your municipality's pick-up schedule.

Waste & Recycling Information

English

To get waste and recycling information for where you live, select your municipality

Choose your area

User Agreement

Privacy Policy



Recycling Guidelines



Composting Guidelines



Household Chemical Waste



Other

## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Port Barrington Launches Recycle Coach

**December 2025 – Port Barrington**—For residents looking to reduce their household waste and become better recyclers, look no further than the Recycle Coach app—now available in Port Barrington.

“Port Barrington is excited to join the Recycle Coach network, which will transform how we communicate local collection, waste, and recycling information to our residents. Beyond that, the platform includes engagement and educational tools to help people manage and correctly dispose of their waste,” said Brian Lawrence, Health & Safety Trustee at Village of Port Barrington.

Residents can access Recycle Coach from their desktop computers and mobile devices. These platforms make it easy for people to get local disposal information for thousands of household items when they need it. And the best part: it’s absolutely free!

With Recycle Coach, residents can:

- Stay organized with custom curbside collection and events calendars
- Receive collection reminders and real-time updates on service disruptions
- Become recycling experts with a comprehensive “What Goes Where?” search tool, including local disposal information and collection requirements for common and uncommon items
- Take the “We Wanted to Know” weekly quizzes for useful recycling tips and tricks
- Use the problem-reporting tool, equipped with geolocation, to notify municipal customer services about issues like missed collections

“Ultimately, the service takes the guesswork out of recycling, empowering residents to make smarter disposal decisions and take an active approach to reducing household waste. For Port Barrington, this will translate into higher recycling rates and less contamination in our recycling stream—a win-win for everyone,” said Mr. Lawrence.

Become a better recycler today by downloading the Recycle Coach app for free in the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play](#).

### About Recycle Coach

Recycle Coach is a technology company with deep roots in public and private waste management services. The company develops a comprehensive digital solution that optimizes collection, waste, and recycling programs. It connects residents with local disposal information on desktop and mobile.

Serving over 1,700 communities, Recycle Coach strives to make the world a greener place by making it easier for people to practice waste mindfulness.

### About Port Barrington – Friendly by Nature

The Village of Port Barrington is a small town nestled in the Fox River Valley. This recreational community, located in both [Lake](#) and [McHenry](#) Counties, has walking, biking and snowmobile trails, boating, fishing, and several parks and marinas within its boundaries. Visit [www.portbarrington.net](http://www.portbarrington.net) for more information.

-Brian Lawrence  
Trustee of Health & Safety  
Village of Port Barrington

join the Recycle Coach network. For residents looking to reduce

rec

EL

•

● Garbage



SCAN ME

Meet Loop the Cart! He's a little cart with a BIG appetite for your recyclables. On October 20, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus announced the kickoff of "Feed the Cart" — the largest recycling education campaign in Illinois' history. The campaign aims to:

- Get residents of the Metro region excited about recycling again!
- Educate residents to increase recycling and reduce contamination at the community level.
- Improve the quality of materials placed into the recycling stream throughout the region, resulting in a less contaminated, more marketable stream of recyclables.
- Encourage residents and businesses to "buy recycled," to seek out products made from recycled material or packaged in post-consumer recycled content.

Keep your eye out for ads around Chicagoland featuring Loop! Recycle with Loop at [FeedTheCart.org](https://FeedTheCart.org)

The "Feed the Cart" campaign is the largest recycling education and improvement initiative in Illinois' history, launched on October 20, 2025. It aims to increase recycling tonnage across the Chicago metro region by 15% before 2030. The campaign covers six populous counties: Cook (including Chicago), DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will, and is supported by a \$2 million grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The initiative features a mascot named Loop, promoting recycling education and encouraging residents to recycle properly, which benefits the environment and the economy.

# This cart's got BIG eyes and a BIGGER stomach!



# Village of Port Barrington & SWALCO: Partners in Sustainability

Volumes from Clothing & Textile Collection Program since 2024, (including first 3 quarters of 2025), and volumes from Reuse-a-Shoe from 2018 through 2024 + first 3 quarters of 2025. These totaled **6,073 POUNDS** of recorded materials.



- Over 3+ US tons of recorded materials were reused, donated & recycled and kept from landfills!
- That's the weight of over 300 average-sized, adorable, Koala Bears!



ALUM CANS

© 2000

Make  
Everyday  
Earth Day







# THANK YOU

FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP AND FOR WORKING TOGETHER TO PROVIDE  
THESE IMPORTANT RESOURCES TO OUR RESIDENTS AND COMMUNITY,  
WHICH IMPACT BEYOND.

This special report was  
compiled in 2025 by  
Merleanne Rampale,  
SWALCO's Programs &  
Education Director.  
For More Information,  
please contact her:  
Merleanne Rampale  
@ SWALCO,  
[mrampale@swalco.org](mailto:mrampale@swalco.org)

