



Greener Glenview Bulletin

May 2025



Last Chance to Sign the Petition to Regulate Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers

[Sign the petition](#)

Spring cleanup is well underway judging from the number of landscaping trucks around town and the ubiquitous sound of gas-powered leaf blowers. Several Greener Glenview readers have written in expressing annoyance and frustration about leaf blowers, including how the noise interferes with their working at home.

More than 130 people have signed the petition to regulate leaf-blowers. If you haven't already signed the petition, please do so now. Multiple municipalities (Evanston, Glencoe, Highland Park, Kenilworth, Lake Bluff, Lincolnwood, Northbrook, Wilmette) have enacted regulations permitting use of these blowers

only during two periods each year: April 1-30 and October 1-November 30. This same restriction is the minimum action the Village of Glenview should adopt.

Greener Glenview gave a four-page overview of neighboring communities' leaf-blower restrictions to Glenview village staff and the sustainability plan consultant (Blue Strike). However, without a large number of complaints or perhaps enough signatures on the petition, it is unknown whether action by Village staff or the Village Board will occur prior to Fall when autumn cleanups begin. Help bring sensible restrictions to gas-powered leaf blowers by signing the petition. **Greener Glenview will be submitting the petition to the trustees and Village manager in late May.**

[Sign the petition](#)



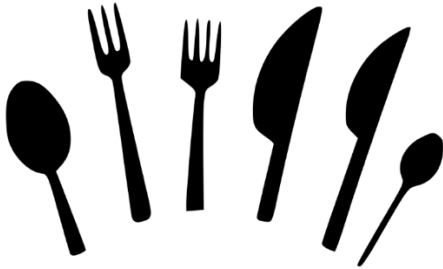
Up-To-Date Recycling Guidelines at your Fingertips

Have a question about whether an object is recyclable? [Recycle Coach](#) will provide the answer!

[Recycle Coach](#) is a project initiated in Illinois by Illinois EPA that provides municipality-based guidance on which objects are recyclable and can be put in your cart.

Then, if it's not something that your hauler and its MRF (Material Recovery Facility) can accept, the program lists where it can be recycled.

[Check it out](#)--it's FREE (desktop and an app)—and has a variety of useful information!



Don't Miss the Kitchen Ware Swap

WHEN:

- Drop off between May 2 and May 8
- Pick up new-to-you items on May 9

WHERE: Glenview Public Library

No longer need that melon baller? Drop off your new or gently used kitchenware at the Readers or Youth Desks between Friday, May 2 and Thursday, May 8. Come back on Friday, May 9 to pick out new-to-you items and connect with others.

Reuse is even better than recycling!



How Corner Optical Reduces Its Carbon Footprint -- One Frame at a Time

This is the story of the circular economy in action; it's so heartening to learn of a business where environmental sustainability is central to its thinking.

Local master optician, Kevin Count, is the owner of [Corner Optical](#) (1527 Waukegan Road, Suite B) and eyeglasses maker of choice for both of Greener Glenview's cofounders. His manufacturing equipment is in the middle of his frames display. While watching frames being made during a recent visit there, we asked Kevin what he did with his production waste. This is his story.

At Corner Optical, we believe great design starts long before pencil hits paper—or acetate hits the mill. It starts with a question: Can we make beautiful, wearable eyewear that's also kind to the planet? That question has driven every decision we've made, from how we source our materials to what happens to our production waste. And like any good design challenge, the answer isn't simple—but it is exciting.

Let's start with the material itself. The frames we make in-house are crafted from cellulose acetate, a plant-based plastic derived from wood pulp and cotton fibers. It's beautiful, strong, flexible—and unlike petroleum-based plastics, it's biodegradable over time under the right conditions. That means our original designs can look good without leaving a toxic footprint behind.

But we didn't stop there. We've been moving toward zero waste. We currently recycle over 90% of our acetate scraps, reusing them in our prototype development and even in our ready-to-wear collections. What used to be off-cuts and trimmings are now raw materials for experimentation and small-batch design runs. In other words: waste becomes wonder.

And we're taking the next step forward. We're now in the process of transitioning to M49 Bioplastic, developed by the legendary material house Mazzuchelli 1849. M49 is a next-generation cellulose acetate that's 100% plant-based, with absolutely no synthetic plasticizers. It's strong, sustainable, and stunning to work with—a perfect match for our mission and aesthetic.

We're eyewear designers, sure. But we're also stewards of our environment, and we know that every little decision—from the frames we sculpt to the materials we leave behind—matters. Glenview is our home. It's where we live, work, design, and dream. And we're proud to build a business that's not just rooted in great craftsmanship, but in conscious creation. Sustainability isn't a feature; it's the framework.

It's Bird Migration Season. Cut the lights!

International Dark Sky Week was April 21-28, 2025. It's especially important in this season that we reduce nighttime lighting because it is disorienting to migrating birds. Even with indoor lighting, it's best to lower shades at night to reduce bird strikes.

Thank you to Go Green Northbrook for this article from their April bulletin.



image: united states/national fish and wildlife foundation

Cut the lights! Chicagoland's role in the miracle of bird migration

"A miracle happens along the shore of Lake Michigan every spring and every fall -- bird migration. few people are aware of the magnitude of the miracle. Literally millions of birds migrate through the Chicago area, guided by a north-south line: Lake Michigan's shoreline. Many bird species have evolved over tens of thousands of years to follow a migration route — known as a flyway — that provides them with a visual north-south sightline they follow as they migrate. along that route between points as far south as the tip of South America and as far north as the Arctic Circle, migrating birds must find food, shelter, and protection from hazards, both natural and man-made". [Read more about this amazing migration](#) by

authors Terry Schilling and Christine Williamson.

Turn off your lights to protect wildlife from light pollution. [Find out more about what you can do on Northbrook village website.](#)

Native Plant Sales

Go Green Wilmette

Saturday, May 10, 9:00 to 11:00 AM

Gillson Beach House Parking Lot, 101 Lake Ave. Wilmette

GG Wilmette is holding its 11th annual Native Plant Sale fundraiser again this year! Plants will be available first come, first serve. The sale will be IN PERSON at the Gillson Beach parking lot. Look for our signage to find us by the maintenance barn. We will have a large variety of plants and plenty of volunteers to help you make your selections. The event will occur rain or shine. Cash and credit cards accepted. [See the list of plants expected to be available](#) at the sale. Bike Walk Wilmette will also be collecting used bikes for WorkingBikes.org

Additional Resources:

<http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/>

<https://www.audubon.org/native-plants>

<https://www.possibilityplace.com/plant-finder>

Questions? [Contact Go Green Wilmette](#)

Go Green Park Ridge/Maine East Ecology Club

Native Plant Sale and Compost Giveaway

Friday, May 16 @ 4:00 to 6:00 PM and Saturday, May 17 @ 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Maine East High School, West Lot. Enter at Dempster and Dee Road.

Free compost giveaway while supplies last. Bring your own 5 gallon bucket.

Northbrook Garden Club Plant Sale

Friday, May 16 @ 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Saturday, May 17 @ 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Village Green Community Center, 1810 Walters Ave., Northbrook

The Northbrook Garden Club will have thousands of plants grown or propagated by members and a large selection of nursery-grown plants. Experienced and master

gardeners will be on hand throughout this two-day event with friendly tips and advice. Sun or shade, dry or damp soil—there will be plants we love in our gardens that will be perfect for yours.

Evanston Environmental Association
Bird Buzz Native Plant Sale Pick-Up
Saturday May 31, 2025 @ 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM
James Park Fieldhouse Parking Lot

Pick up day for Pre-ordered Plant Sale plants! Bring your receipt from your online purchase. Online sales are now live and will be available until Tuesday, May 27. Visit the [5th Annual Bird Buzz Native Plant Sale](#) to purchase your plants now.



**INTERNATIONAL COMPOST
AWARENESS WEEK IS MAY 4-10,
2025**

Among the local events, Collective Resource Composting Cooperative, is sponsoring a 'Spring Finished Compost Gift-Back'. Greener Glenview is partnering with Collective Resource for the Free Community Food Scrap Dropoff Pilot Program this summer.

WHEN: Tuesday, May 6 @ 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM and
Sunday May 11 @ 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

WHERE: The Talking Farm, 3669 Howard St., Skokie, IL

Compost is available to Collective Resource Compost Cooperative customers, co-op owners and the public. Registration and prepayment is required. \$5 per 5 gallons. Bring your own containers to fill.

[REGISTRATION AND PREPAYMENT ARE REQUIRED](#)

**Coming This Summer: Free Community Food Scrap
Compost Dropoff**



Composting is the single most valuable act a homeowner can take to reduce their carbon footprint. This is because food scraps sent to the landfill give off methane as they rot. Composting recycles food waste without creating methane and creates a nutritious soil amendment. As described in Greener Glenview's April bulletin, the Free Pilot Drop-off Food Scrap Composting Program this summer will expand residents' current composting options. Currently, residents can compost vegetable scraps in three main ways:

1. use their own backyard composting bins
2. add vegetable and dairy scraps to their Yard Waste bin
3. contract with a private composting company such as Collective Resource or Waste Not to have all of their food scraps—including meat and fish and bones--picked up and commercially composted

REGISTER NOW by sending an email to GreenerGlenview@gmail.com. And, mark your calendar for the program rollout at the June 16 presentation @ 7:00 p.m. at the Glenview Public Library, one of the two drop-off locations.

Eliminating Invasive Buckthorn with Help from the Village and Park District



Now that the leaves have emerged, it's easier to identify buckthorn. Buckthorn is the target of a community eradication program.

Village of Glenview

[Village of Glenview buckthorn removal incentive program](#)

- Pays half of the expense (up to \$600) to get rid of buckthorn--either DIY projects or hired work.
- Requires "before" and "after" inspections by Village staff to see the extent of buckthorn infestation and to confirm that it is completely removed.

Glenview Park District

- If buckthorn on your property abuts Glenview Park District property, contact Director of Planning Ken Wexler (ken.wexler@glenviewparks.org)
- The Park District may remove it from your property at no expense and may even plant shrubs or trees in its place.

Who Else Can Help Me Remove Buckthorn?

If you don't want to remove it yourself, Greener Glenview members report hiring tree service companies to remove buckthorn. Three companies mentioned are

[Horigan Tree Care](#)
[Davey Tree Experts](#)
[Bartlett's Tree Experts](#)

Finally, if you want to promote buckthorn removal to your neighbors, you can get a "Buckthorn Free Property" sign. Sunrise Rotary has teamed up with GBS students who designed the sign for property owners to post after they've rid their hedges of the nasty shrub/tree.

[View this video](#) to learn to identify buckthorn, how it harms our tree canopy and biodiversity, and how to get rid of it.



The Village of
Glenview

Call to Action: Take the Glenview Sustainability Survey!

The Glenview Sustainability Plan survey is now live!

TAKE THE SURVEY to provide feedback regarding sustainability challenges facing the Glenview community.

- What key challenges does the community face?
- What actions should local government undertake?
- What programs are most effective?

Five minutes of your time will help shape the recommendations and priorities of the Glenview Sustainability Plan!

TAKE THE SURVEY



Code Campaigns: Creating a Health, Resilience, and Efficiency Baseline in Illinois

WHEN: May 8 @ Noon to 1:00 PM

WHERE: Virtual

SPONSORS: Illinois Green Alliance. Join Illinois Green Alliance, RMI, and AIA Chicago

Learn how strong codes make homes and buildings more resilient, comfortable, affordable to operate, and climate-aligned. In Illinois, over 46% of carbon emissions come from buildings. Industry professionals currently have the opportunity to take practical action to “raise the floor” for building efficiency across the state. You will learn about building energy codes and their role in decarbonization and efficiency, how other states have approached building codes, and discuss how you can take action to push for strong, resilient codes. Note: Greener Glenview is a member of the Illinois Green Alliance.

[REGISTER](#)

Kitchenware Swap

WHEN: Drop off your new or gently used kitchenware at the Readers or Youth Desks between Friday, May 2 and Thursday, May 8. Come back on Friday, May 9 to pick out new-to-you items between 5:00 and 7:00 PM

WHERE: Glenview Public Library

No longer need that melon baller? Drop off your new or gently used kitchenware at the Readers or Youth Desks between Friday, May 2 and Thursday, May 8. Come back on Friday, May 9 to pick out new-to-you items and connect with others.

ACCEPTED ITEMS: Utensils (spoons, spatulas, tongs, etc.), Mixing bowls, Measuring cups and spoons, Storage containers (glass or plastic), Pots and pan, Cookie sheets, Small gadgets.

NOT ACCEPTED: Any electronic appliances, Knives, Anything in need of repair, Anything that stinks/smells, is moldy or dirty.

Chicago River and Techy Basin Clean-Up Day

WHEN: Saturday, May 10 @ 9:00 AM to Noon

WHERE: Techny Basin and Downtown Glenview

SPONSORS: Glenview Environmental and Natural Resources Commission

Every year since 1992, thousands of volunteers come together on Chicago River Day to build community while removing litter from our local waterways. The Chicago-Calumet River system is healthier now than it has been in 150 years, providing critical habitat for all sorts of animals from migratory birds to beavers, turtles and over 75 species of fish. But there's more work to be done. You can make a difference by volunteering at this fun, free, family-friendly annual cleanup.

Glenview will have two clean-up sites this year – one at the Techny Basin and another in Downtown Glenview. For the Techny Basin site, meet at the Aldi parking lot off Willow Road at 9 am. For the Downtown cleanup site, meet at Shopper's Row at 9 am. These cleanup events are open to anyone and no registration is required.

Guided Bird Walk

WHEN: Sunday, May 11 @ 8:00 to 10:00 AM

WHERE: Wilmette Harbor Coast Guard Station, 10 Harbor Dr., Wilmette (South end of Gilson Park)

SPONSOR: Go Green Wilmette

Join in for a bird walk starting in late April and each Sunday morning in May. Learn how to identify both backyard birds and those stopping to rest and refuel as they migrate north. Get tips for how to attract more birds to your yard. Beginners and children welcome! Meet at the martin house. Bring binoculars if you have them but we'll have some extras available. Dress warmly! (Information about virtual and self-guided walks available [on our website.](#))

Coyotes All Around

WHEN: Monday, May 12 @ 7:00 to 8:00 PM

WHERE: Northbrook Public Library, Pollak Room AB - First Floor

SPONSOR: Go Green Northbrook

Learn about the natural history and special adaptations of coyotes and other canines who share our suburban neighborhoods, and how to live peacefully with them. Presented by Lake County Forest Preserves.

[Register](#)

From Mobilize to Manage: Decarb Strategies for Existing Buildings

WHEN: May 14 @ Noon to 1:00 PM

WHERE: Virtual

SPONSOR: Illinois Green Alliance

A practical introduction to decarbonizing existing buildings, covering the urgency of climate action, key sustainability concepts, and the business case for emissions reduction. Speakers will provide an overview of the 5M Decarbonization Roadmap, a best practice approach to developing and implementing comprehensive decarb strategies for existing buildings. Participants will also gain a clear understanding of operational vs. embodied carbon, carbon neutrality vs. net zero, and how certifications like Green Globes, LEED v5, and WELL support carbon reduction and wellness goals. The speakers will share perspectives from relevant case studies and explore how this roadmap can align with key sustainability pathways like CRREM (Carbon Risk Real Estate Monitor).

Note: Greener Glenview is a member of the IL Green Alliance.

[REGISTER](#)

Walk and Talk: A Hike in Linne Woods

WHEN: Saturday, May 17 @ 1:00 to 3:00 PM

WHERE: Linne Woods

SPONSOR: Forest Preserves of Cook County and Glenview Public Library

This is a slow pace hike on marked paved and gravel trails, with frequent stops along the way, estimated time hiking time is 1.5 to 2 hours. The Forest Preserve of Cook County website states that the entrance is at "W Dempster St, east of Lehigh Ave, in Morton Grove, IL 60053". Meet near picnic grove 2, at the far end of the parking lot. The hike begins at 1:15 pm.; the leader plans to arrive by 12:45.

[Registration required](#)

Go Green Reads: The Backyard Bird Chronicles

WHEN: Monday, May 19 @ 7:00 to 8:00 PM

WHERE: Zoom

SPONSOR: Go Green Winnetka

The Backyard Bird Chronicles is a gorgeous, witty account of birding, nature, and the beauty around us that hides in plain sight, written and illustrated by Amy Tan, the best-selling author of The Joy Luck Club. Not surprisingly, the birds that inhabit Ms. Tan's backyard seem a lot like the characters in her novels. Ms. Tan charts her foray into birding and the natural wonders of the world through daily entries, thoughtful questions, and beautiful original

sketches. In search of peace in an increasingly divided world, Ms. Tan turned toward the natural world just beyond her window and, specifically, the birds visiting her yard. But what began as an attempt to find solace turned into something far greater—an opportunity to savor quiet moments during a volatile time, connect to nature in a meaningful way, and imagine the intricate lives of the birds she admired.

[Register](#)

Climate Action Evanston Nurturing Nature Speaker Series: How Are Native Plants Adapting to Climate Disruption?

WHEN: Wednesday, May 21 @ 6:30 to 7:30 PM

WHERE: Zoom

Starflower (*Trientalis borealis*) reaches a southern range limit in northern Illinois, which puts Illinois populations at risk due to climate change. Emily Dangremond, President of the Illinois Native Plant Society, researched this plant on the edge, investigating the phenology (timing) of flowering and fruiting in the upper Midwest. She will share how, from herbarium specimens and field observations, the research detected shifts in flowering dates to better understand the relationship between temperature and reproductive phenology in this species. Emily will also describe other activities sponsored by the Illinois Native Plant Society.

[REGISTER](#)

North Branch Restoration Workdays

All workdays are 9:00 AM to Noon

[To register for any of these workdays](#)

Harms Road

WHEN: Saturday, May 17 and Sunday, May 25

WHERE: Meet at the forest preserve Glenview Woods parking lot on the west side of Harms Road, just south of Glenview Road.

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