
TO: Urbana Sustainability Advisory Commission
FROM: Scott R. Tess, Sustainability & Resilience Officer
DATE: December 3, 2021
RE: Staff Report

Closed Landfill

Through a vendor, staff has removed woody vegetation to provide access for a replacement sampling well. Staff has published an invitation to bid for the well installation.

Geothermal Urbana-Champaign

The City is working with the Geothermal Alliance of Illinois and other supporters on a 2.0 round of bulk geothermal energy system purchase.

Landfill Solar

The Low Income Community Solar array at the closed landfill has been completed and is now commercially operational.

Landscape Recycling Center

Champaign County Environmental Stewards has received a grant from the Lumpkin Family Foundation to organize a food scrap collection and composting program. The grant would, in part, provide for the construction of a concrete food scrap composting bin at the Landscape Recycling Center. Champaign County Environmental Stewards will be working to solicit food scrap generators and a hauler.

Public Engagement

Staff spoke to Good Morning Illini about the goods and services at the Landscape Recycling Center.

U-Cycle

During the countywide electronics recycling event on October 16, we collected 126,358 lbs. of electronics devices. 52% of the devices collected were CRT & LCD TVs (comprising 67,788 lbs.).

During the week of November 15-20, U-Cycle and the Urbana Park District partnered to have a drop-off recycling event for hard-to-recycle items including juice pouches, CFL bulbs, CDs/DVDs, and eyeglasses in addition to items collected at the drop-off year round including batteries, ink jet cartridges, cell phones and six-pack ring carriers. Here are some of the total weights collected at the event:

- Ink jet cartridges – 5 lbs.
- Batteries – 65 lbs.
- Pens, Pencils & Markers – 19 lbs. (only accepted that week)
- Cell phones – 9 lbs.
- Juice pouches – 1 lb. (only accepted that week)
- Eyeglasses – 23 sets (only accepted that week)
- CDs/DVDs – 42 pounds (only accepted that week)
- CFLs – over 100 bulbs (only accepted that week)

We collected hard-to-recycle items that aren't accepted in the curbside recycling program. Inkjet cartridges and cell phones are recycled by an electronics recycling vendor, called A-Team Recyclers, out of Joliet, IL. Batteries are recycled through the City of Urbana's vendor, Battery Solutions, based out of Michigan. Pens, pencils and markers, along with juice pouches were sent to a national recycling processor called TerraCycle to be processed. Juice pouches were also sent to TerraCycle for processing. TerraCycle sorts, separates and processes the individual components of each item. Plastics are generally shredded or pelletized (melted into pellets) to use as feedstock for the manufacture of new products such as outdoor furniture or decking, watering cans, playground equipment, flooring tiles, and more. Eyeglasses were donated to a local non-profit, CFLs were brought to Home Depot through their bulb drop-off recycling program, and CDs/DVDs were sent to The Idea Store for arts & crafts projects.

U-Cycle staff worked with Urbana Public Works to in-source curbside bagged leaf collection after multiple solicitations resulted in no bids from private haulers. In subsequent weeks, staff will evaluate the financial impact of renting a packer truck and in-sourcing the labor.

Solar Urbana-Champaign

The 6.0 round currently has 16 contracts totally 119 kW of capacity booked.

Sustainability Advisory Commission 2022 Schedule

Date	Time	Room
2/1/2022	7pm	Council Chambers
3/1/2022	7pm	Council Chambers
4/5/2022	7pm	Council Chambers
5/3/2022	7pm	Council Chambers
6/7/2022	7pm	Council Chambers
8/2/2022	7pm	Council Chambers
9/13/2021	7pm	Council Chambers
10/4/2022	7pm	Council Chambers
12/6/2022	7pm	Council Chambers

Next Sustainability Advisory Commission Meeting

February 1 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers at the Urbana City Building.

Persons with disabilities needing special services or accommodations for this meeting should contact the City of Urbana's Americans with Disabilities Coordinator at 384-2466 or TTY at 384-2447.