

HOPEWELL VALLEY GREEN TEAM
November 12, 2020 via Zoom Meeting Agenda

In attendance: J. Held, C. Meyer, R. Parker, P. Stahlin, W. Pfeiffenberger, M. Pressel, L. Croucher, S. Fulmer, M. van Vuuren

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE -- Pennington Farmers Market collections were successful, also liked the spot we had at Rosedale Mills, thank you to all who are helping bring blue bags of #5 plastics to Whole Foods. Joann to work with Carol for the purchase of additional Zero Waste boxes with grant money.

Newspapers for Mercer County Wildlife Center - pleased with collection and adding post to website on their needs

Material (pounds) Collected in 2020				
#5 Plastic	Corks	CDs/DVDs	Dental Products	Brita Filters
1169	110	263	62	34
Razors	Athletic Balls	Pens, Pencils,...	Alkaline Batteries	
7	94	35	323	=over one ton!

Rechargeable Batteries: Know Your Battery Fact Sheet? article suggested reading:
<https://www.nytimes.com/wirecutter/blog/are-rechargeable-batteries-better-than-alkaline/>

As a Green Team, we are suggesting these 3 things: (will post on FB page)

1. We are looking for yogurt recipes
2. Choose aluminum over plastic containers
3. Try rechargeable batteries over one-use alkaline batteries

NATIVE PLANTS GRANT (Paul) Update coming in December

HVRSD Green Team (Margret & Joann) the teams are meeting virtually, easier to be green with no cafeteria waste this year. Some students get bagged lunches and food service is working hard to sustainably package these lunches. Timberlane Middle School was ambitious with their green team, and asked Joann to be an advisor! Right now, they are looking at conserving water, outdoor classroom space, a rain garden and putting green initiatives on the school website (from the Reimagine Club).

WEBSITE (Scott) Cary Bruestle in Pennington offering a pro bono hosting of an entirely new website, possibly moving from our current host, WordPress, plus training for Scott, which may mitigate security issues. Scott can build the site privately, then switch the domain registration, as a whole new website. Can link our website to blogs for additional reference, ie. rechargeable batteries, food waste, etc. Scott will ask about Google Analytics, which has been very helpful in the past. Joann said that this is a good time to be thinking broadly about our website and what we want our website to look like, or focus on, or if you have seen a great website as an example, please send it to Joann and Scott. The group recommended going with the Bruestles

as host and for Scott to ask for help as the website design is underway.

NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE: Our guest, Mike Pressel, will be acting as a recycling ambassador for his Penn View Heights neighborhood in Pennington, and will collect some materials from his neighborhood this winter.

FOCUS ON ENERGY

Mercer County Energy Efficiency Training: Nov 19 at 4 p.m. (commercial, residential, community, municipal, etc.) Will learn ways to message, outreach, what's available, and programs that will pay you for energy efficiency. Information on direct install program: collecting 1-yr of bills, an audit, pick what you want to do, send in contractors to assess, and company pays 20-25%, which they usually make back in a few years.

~ Develop a Campaign Calendar for sharing info on the Theme
(PLUS a Campaign Calendar for our Recycling Activities)

~ Angles on Energy

EV Chargers

#1 Priority for 2021- Reduce Your Carbon Footprint - revisit calculators on our website, which calculator do we want to rely on. Rex would like to settle on one that we see as the best calculator, and thinks many of the calculators are not helpful and not useful. Can motivate the community for the new year!

Energy Efficiency

Explaining Energy Aggregation –The Green Option (postponed)

Direct Install Videos

State Energy Master Plan

Fuel Cells / Hydrogen House / Joy Arena

~ Start using Instagram?

~ Data Visualization / Arts Component

~ Connection to the High School? / Citizen Science Projects?

~ Challenge or Competition? For example, how has your energy usage changed during this time of social distancing?

~ Incorporate Environmental Justice?

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 19: Commercial Energy Efficiency Toolkit Training at 4 p.m.

Dec 10: Green Team Meeting – The group agreed to take a month off. However, Joann will first lock in a location for the Feb. 6, 2021 Styrofoam Collection, so we are up-to-date with our planning

March 2021: Virtual GreenFest Event (may have events happening on Fri. afternoons & Sat. mornings during the month of March). Joann to have more information as the event planning group meets in the coming weeks and months.

Meeting Dates 2021: Jan 14, Feb 11, Mar 11, Apr 8, May 13, Jun 10, Jul 8, Aug 12, Sep 9, Oct 14, Nov 11, Dec 9