

**HOPEWELL VALLEY GREEN TEAM**  
**April 8, 2021 7:30 p.m. via Zoom**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**In attendance:** Joann Held, Carol Meyer, Scott Fulmer, Margret van Vurren, Colleen McKee, Frank Vanderree, Beatrice Gooding, Rex Parker

**REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE**

**Styrofoam** - Rex and Joann met with HT Public Works and toured the bays. An alternative is to use the Barn (cold storage) for a week or two to store the styrofoam until it was picked up or delivered to Princeton Moulding. The barn is 10 times the size of Joann's garage. An athletic event there could be an issue on our collection day. Next, set up a virtual meeting with Gary at Princeton Moulding

**Pennington Garbage Bins** - new barrels coming with new claw-type garbage pickup. What to do with the old garbage cans?

New Facebook group - **BUY NOTHING** - posts what you are looking for or what you have to give away. Just our community. Pennington Boro is planning a free day where you could put out things you do not want.

Scott brought DVDs to the Better World Books collection in Hamilton and the Hazardous waste event did take the button cell batteries.

**#5 Recycles** - Carol to check in with the manager of Whole Foods. Rex brought up the need for looking for alternatives or changes in what restaurants or grocery stores are offering for takeout.

**HOPEWELL VALLEY GREEN WEEK (April 18-24)**

~ Live Green Hopewell Valley!

Time & Place / Staffing

9-10 Hopewell Borough Park

11-12 Woolsey Park (requested)

1-2 Kunkel Park

Bags: Contents, Sewing

Scavenger Hunt: Cards, Signs, Prizes

**MERCER COUNTY GREENING TOGETHER (April 24-30)**

~Zero Waste Virtual Event on April 26: Start Time?

Home Waste Audit

Plastic Free Life

Recycling Tune-up

Composting

Seeds to Sew Reusable Gift Bags

Break Out Session

**PENNINGTON NET ZERO Carbon Emissions by 2035 Resolution** - the EC Commission will be doing a carbon footprint and provide advice to the boro. Solar? Joann will keep us up-to-date on progress.

**WEBSITE (Scott)** - modified the site by re-grouping the tags up top of the site, to add space for infographic (it is under Learn). Scott would like some feedback on his work.

**OTHER?**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

April 18-24: Hopewell Valley Green Week

April 24-30: Mercer County Greening Together (aka Green Fest)

May 13: Green Team Meeting at 7:30 pm via Zoom

May 15: Pennington Day cancelled

May 17-21: NJ Sustainability Summit (hosted by Sustainable Jersey)

June 26, July 31, Aug. 28, Sept. 25, Oct. 30: Pennington Farmers Market recycling days (9 am – 1 pm)

## HOPEWELL VALLEY GREEN WEEK (April 18-24)

<https://sites.google.com/hvrsd.org/hopewellvalleygreenweek/home>

Bit.ly/HVGreenWeek

April 18 at 3pm: The Sacrifice Zone (Environmental Justice Documentary)

April 21 at 6pm: Waste: One Woman's Fight (Community Book Discussion)

April 22 at 8pm: Eco Trivia Night (Fundraiser for Outdoor Equity Alliance)

April 24 at 3pm: Green Week Forum (Where do we go from here?) ~ **We will need help with the breakout rooms at the end! Would anyone like to lead a room?**

**Other Topics throughout the week:** Biomimicry; Food Systems & Climate Change; Pollinator-Friendly Landscapes; Recycling Won't Save Us; Tips to Reduce your Carbon Footprint; Hopewell Valley Dark Skies; Microplastic Madness; Junkyard Upcycle Art; Bird Migrations; Backyard Victory Garden

## April 24: Live Green Hopewell Valley! Come Get Your Green Living Kit!

Sponsored by Hopewell Valley Green Team

9-10 Hopewell Borough Park

11-12 Woolsey Park

1-2 Kunkel Park

**Bags:** PALS on Main is sewing the first 50 bags and will fill them

**Scavenger Hunt:** Lauren Meyer has drafted the Bingo Cards

I have a bin of crayons

Molly Reiner is assembly some sewing kit prizes & info on mending

Scott may bring his worm bin!

**Lawn Signs:** Save the Food; Howe Arboretum; Homemade Bags

## Kit Contents:

- Recycling Brochure
- Home Waste Audit Instructions
- How to make your own T-Shirt Bag
- Anti-Idling Card
- Lawrence Hopewell Trail Brochure (tentative)
- NJ Clean Energy Brochure
- NJ Clean Energy Gel Packs
- Wildflower Seed Packets
- Mini-flyer from PALS

### **MERCER COUNTY GREENING TOGETHER (April 24-30)**

April 25 at 3pm: Climate Change Deep Dive (C-Change Conversations)

#### **April 26 at 7pm: Zero Waste (Hopewell Valley & West Windsor)**

April 27 at 7pm: Clean Transportation (Trenton)

April 28 at 7pm: Water Wednesday (Sustainable Lawrence & Watershed Institute)

April 29: Green Infrastructure (Watershed Institute)

April 30: Arbor Day - some smaller virtual events

#### **April 26 at 7pm: Zero Waste (Hopewell Valley & West Windsor)**

**Abstract:** Living sustainably means striving to produce as little waste as possible in our day-to-day activities. In this session we will learn how to do a Home Waste Audit and share some easy (and perhaps some not so easy) ways to reduce that waste. Topics will include: Plastic Free Living, Reusable Gift Bags, Recycling Right, and many ways to turn your food and yard waste into compost. We will end with an optional break-out session when participants can share their own tips

#### **Agenda for our April 26 at 7 pm Zero Waste Talk:**

Welcome/Overview

“Story of Stuff” movie trailer - about 5 minutes

Home Waste Audits - details how to do an audit at home

Write in the chat box: If you were to do the Home Waste Audit,  
What might be the most common items on your list?

Your Plastic Free Life (SlideShow/Video)

Reusable Gift Bags (Seeds to Sew)

Recycle Right Video (West Windsor Girl Scouts)

Composting (Sustainable Lawrence & West Windsor Girl Scouts)

Breakout: What is the toughest problem to keep you from reaching Zero Waste?

**Will need help with the Breakout rooms**

#### **Zero Waste Resources:**

Ways to get plastics out of your life

<https://mercersustainabilitycoalition.org/plastic-pollution/>

Fact Sheet about Reusable bags

<https://www.westwindsornj.org/w-w-byobag>