

HOPEWELL VALLEY GREEN TEAM

December 9, 2021 via Zoom Meeting Minutes

In attendance: J. Held, C. Meyer, S. Fulmer, R. Parker, M. van Vuuren, Kim

WEBSITE (Scott) We are now in control of the website with Network Solutions (now with IQconnections) and can change to another host, when we are ready.

Everyone, please review our website often and let Scott know of any updates. Still looking for a web host.

WATERSHED AMBASSADORS (Marisa Immordino and Amanda Weigand) and follow-up - They do programming, stream assessment, green infrastructure and ways to prevent or ameliorate flooding. Make a homeowner checklist available as best practices for homeowners to manage flooding.

BENEFIT OF BANNING SINGLE USE BAGS (article written by our own Paul Kinney!)

<https://www.hopewelltp.org/DocumentCenter/View/8218/New-Jersey-Single-Use-Bag-Straw-Ban-Will-Make-a-Difference>

PLASTIC USE AT COSTCO AND OTHER BIG CHAINS see the scoring at: "[2021 Corporate Plastic Pollution Scorecard](#)," As You Sow, September 29, 2021.

REDUCE/REUSE/RECYCLE

~ Styrofoam: Exploring Options for Densifying: G2 Revolution <https://www.g2rev.com/> (based in IL, but have offices in every state), Ray Bobs, Foam Pack (reuses Styrofoam for new Styrofoam containers)

~ CDs/DVDs & Cases: www.GreenDisk.com

~ Metals Recycling: Per Kim, Sims Metal (dropoff site in Ewing), <https://www.simsmm.com/locations/ewing-new-jersey/> take metals from consumers and homeowners, for ex. Gutters, refrigerators, give lists of what they take, clothes hangers, small appliances, etc., and geared towards businesses. Promote Sims? Partner with Rosedale Mills?

www.Batterysolutions.com mail-in recycling collection programs. Scott has done some research on these programs. Search mail-in programs. Perhaps this is the beginning of a list of mail-in programs for recycling for our webpage!

GREEN TEAM GOALS FOR 2022 - tabled until our next meeting.

MEETING DATES FOR 2022

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

UPCOMING EVENTS - Hopewell Township needs to recertify with Sustainable Jersey - Rex to see who is our contact. Start recertification in January and February and submit to SJ by May, then a final submission in October or November.

HOPEWELL VALLEY GREEN TEAM GOALS FOR 2022

Draft Sept 23, 2021

SUSTAINABLE JERSEY CERTIFICATION

- Assist Pennington Borough in the process of Re-certifying with Sustainable Jersey in 2022.

Note: Check to see if Hopewell Township and/or Hopewell Borough plan to Certify in 2022.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION with an emphasis on REDUCE/REUSE

- Single Use Bag Ban (short-term plan is a “reusable bag swap”)
- Energy Efficiency
- Tips for Reducing Waste
- Training for Correct Recycling

Note: Venues for education include monthly attendance at Pennington Farmers Market, Community events such as Pennington Day, Hopewell Harvest Fair, Mercer County GreenFest, and the events organized by the Hopewell Valley Arts Council.

Note: We would like to purchase a table cover with the Green Team’s name and logo so that we can be more visible at community events.

RECYCLING

- Find a way to densify Styrofoam so that we can resume collection

Note: A long-term goal is to find a host for a recycling depot in the Valley

COLLABORATION

- Continue to be actively involved in the HoVal Regional School District Green Team and the Mercer County Sustainability Coalition
- Assist with the Pennington Borough Carbon Free by 2035 Initiative
- Actively engage representatives of our 3 municipal governments