

HOPEWELL VALLEY GREEN TEAM

September 14, 2023, via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

In attendance: J. Held, C. Meyer, P. Kinney, S. Fulmer, R. Parker, B. Merry,
K. Haren, C. Colella, M. van Vuuren, D. Aicher

HOPEWELL HARVEST FAIR – Sept 23, 10-4 (Zero waste event this year!)

Activity to teach about Organic Waste Composting - Carol and Joann working on the tri-fold board and interactive game for guests to play

Staffing - Joann will schedule 2 people per shift

Possible grant opportunity through the Hopewell Harvest Fair - early Oct. deadline. It has to be for the community. Some ideas Ice maker for the school, and a solar-powered generator for the fair. Here is the link to an idea: <https://www.popularmechanics.com/adventure/outdoors/g37295464/best-solar-powered-generators/>

Other Preparations - we will have 2 tables; one will be the literature table

WORKING WITH OUR MUNICIPALITIES- Update

Report to Pennington Borough Council - Joann will reschedule with them

REDUCE/REUSE/RECYCLE

HV Shedding and E-Waste - all 3 municipalities will be participating on Sept. 30

Metals Recycling Event- working on the liability insurance with the collector, as well as the details of where the money would go from the collection. We may be looking to do the collection in late fall or Feb/March. We also need to give people lead time to collect!

Styrofoam - Unitarian Church is interested in hosting a collection. Joann will talk with them in the coming weeks. HT has the clean communities grant which could encompass this event.

Mercer County's recycling rate is about 9%, and statewide is about 11%. Scott added the link to the interview with Dan Napoleon (MCIA) to the website.

Paul found out that **Staples** will accept single-use batteries, pens, crayons, and many other items. Here is the link: <https://www.staples.com/stores/recycling>.

COMMUNITY SOLAR

Status - This is an action item for Sustainable Jersey certification. HT will be coming up with Community Solar criteria. We can get points just by doing a resolution on community solar! We can get each municipality into a working group.

Local Campaign

Expressing Support - here is the link for more information

<https://www.sustainablejersey.com/actions/#open/action/580>

WEBSITE (Scott)

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For Future Discussion

- WATER QUANTITY AND QUALITY

- CIRCULAR ECONOMY PARADIGM
  - Eliminate Waste & Pollution
  - Circulate Products & Materials
  - Regenerate Nature
- COMMUNITY SOLAR
  - Municipal Resolutions of Support
  - Grant Opportunity??
- RESIDENTIAL FLOODING
  - Best Management Practices
  - MS4 Permit
- NATIVE PLANTS & POLLINATORS

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Sept 23: Hopewell Harvest Fair, 10-4

Sept 30: Recycling at Pennington Farmers Market, 9-1

Sept 30: HV Shredding and E-Waste Day

Oct 12: HV Green Team Meeting

Oct 28: Last Recycling at Pennington Farmers Market, 9-1