

HOPEWELL VALLEY GREEN TEAM

November 9, 2023, via Zoom Meeting Minutes

In attendance: J. Held, M. van Vurren, C. Meyer, K. Haren, P. Kinney, D. Johnson, P. Stahlin

COP28 - The 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference or Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC, more commonly referred to as COP28, will be the 28th United Nations Climate Change conference, held from November 30 until December 12, 2023, at the Expo City, Dubai.

Hopewell Harvest Fair Oc. 21 - Young children enjoyed playing our game and receiving a packet of seeds. Well staffed, good spot, and had nice visibility, and it was convenient to have One Compost Can as our neighbor.

MERCER COUNTY SUSTAINABILITY COALITION

Reorganization meeting last month and will kick start at a Green Gathering on **January 24, 2024, at Coopers River View** in Trenton (just up the river from the baseball stadium). It will be from **5 to 7 pm** with lots of time for networking and learning from local groups who are doing great environmental work throughout the County. We have invited County Executive Elect Dan Benson to speak and share his vision for addressing environmental issues in Mercer County.

REDUCE/REUSE/RECYCLE

Metals Recycling Event! Saturday, Feb 10, HV Municipal Building 12-3 pm Money earned will be turned over to Dave's son's Boy Scout troop. Any extra material will be stored in the HVPW building and Dave will pick it up after the event. Joann made a flyer explaining what types of metal will be collected. Joann may make some tweaks to the flyer with FAQs. Meeting next week with the stakeholders. Volunteer staff will be needed for this event!

Farmers Market Report - We were able to talk with a lot of people and had over 300 pounds of material collected and we didn't need as many volunteers.

Styrofoam Recycling - Paul had a problem calling Princeton Moulding is not sure if they are still in business. He had success dropping off his styrofoam at <https://www.epsindustry.org/recycling-map> and put in his zip code and ended up dropping off his styrofoam at:

Northeast Foam Recycling <https://www.facebook.com/Northeastfoamrecycling/>
90 Hamilton Street Chalfont PA 18914
22.09 miles away
215-699-4541

COMMUNITY SOLAR - Joann and Carol met with Reba Holley, Communications Director for Hopewell Township, and gave us tips on how to get the Community Solar press release out in a 6-week window starting in January 2024. HT has allotted \$200 for us this year, which we might be able to use for printing flyers. We could get some students involved by working with

environmental clubs in the high school, and contacting local health departments to get the message out to low-middle income HH, and a list of places to get our message out.

P. Kinney worked off of the Energy Sage site and had a bad experience with the company, Arcadia. They were a subscriber but did not have access to the grid. It looks as if Arcadia may no longer be on the Energy Sage site.

WEBSITE

Ewing Green Team Healthy Yards (Kim) - Wilderness Habitat Projects information and Healthy Gardens are proponents of native plantings in yards (bringing nature home to backyards in Ewing). They have good resources on their website at <https://ewinggreenteam.org/healthy-yards/> that we could link to from our website.

WORKING WITH OUR MUNICIPALITIES- Updates?

News Updates: Lisa Wolff has retired from FoHVOS and the group is looking for a new executive director <https://www.fohvos.info/our-team/staff/>.

HT will get its certification award (bronze) next week. Paul Kinney will be accepting the award on behalf of HT.

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For Future Discussion

- WATER QUANTITY AND QUALITY
- CIRCULAR ECONOMY PARADIGM
  - Eliminate Waste & Pollution
  - Circulate Products & Materials
  - Regenerate Nature
- RESIDENTIAL FLOODING
  - Best Management Practices
  - MS4 Permit
- NATIVE PLANTS & POLLINATORS

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Dec 14: HV Green Team Meeting at 7:30 pm

Jan 24: MCSC Green Gathering 5-7 pm

Feb 10: Metal Recycling 12-3 pm

April 22, 2024, **Earth Day 2024**

April 24, 2024, **Stop Food Waste Day** <https://www.stopfoodwasteday.com/en/index.html>