

HOPEWELL VALLEY GREEN TEAM

September 5, 2024, via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

In attendance: J. Held, S. Fulmer, C. Meyer, D. Hirsch, J. Gallagher, K. Haren, GP

HOPEWELL HARVEST FAIR: Saturday, Sept 21

- Theme/Activity - Joann has the ANJEC game and it is large!
- Setup/Cleanup - Scott and Jack will help with setup
- Staffing - Joann will work on the schedule

HOPEWELL BOROUGH UPDATE (Scott, Jack) Lots of plastic is being collected. We will pitch the winter plastic collection at Hopewell Boro Hall for the Trex challenge and take photos of what plastic isn't collected. Grant for a flyer to send out to Boro residents, such as metal recycling or bulky waste information. Scott said that this flyer will be sent next year. QR code can be used for residents to download a community recycling calendar and events. Idea for June community yard sale leftovers to be collected at the train station.

Scott will work on a part of the website on how to get rid of items, especially how to join a Buy Nothing site.

Hopewell Council Resolution regarding council members' responsibilities and accountabilities with other groups, such as not taking positions contrary to the boro positions. And a yearly adoption of the Green Team from each municipality.

The Green Team is invited to participate in the Hopewell Boro Sunday farmers market.

REDUCE/REUSE/RECYCLE

- Metal Collection February 8, 2025 - the township will have 2 collection vessels and 2 staff members to help. Goal to share information on this collection at the Hopewell Harvest Fair and Saturday collections.
- Free Organic Waste collection with Torus
- Collections at Pennington Farmers Market
 - Staffing / Delivering Material - Thank you to Jack for bringing plastic to Wegmans for the high school collection challenge.
- Mercer Cnty Sept 21 Hazardous and E-waste: http://www.mcyanj.org/filestorage/119/304/2024_SPECIAL_EVENTS_%26_ACCEPTED_MATERIAL.pdf
- Joann still has a fair amount of pots to be distributed from her garage.
- Kim will follow-up with Home Depot for the Proven Winners pots
- <https://www.provenwinners.com/Sustainability-Recycling>

NWF COMMUNITY WILDLIFE HABITAT PROGRAM - <https://www.nwf.org/CERTIFY>. Still getting all 3 municipalities interested and participating. Joann thinks that education is key because anyone can say that their yard or garden is compliant and get certified. Kim thinks that there are educational opportunities for growing and caring for native plants. Public spots such as the arboretum behind Toll Gate Grammar can be included.

Ideas include garden tours, starting small with native plants, rain barrels, and rain gardens, stormwater management, or revolving education around native bird species.

SOCIAL MEDIA (Jack) - Posts coming up will be Hopewell Harvest Fair, EWaste collection and township shredding, and PFM collections. Try to get posts up ahead of the event date. Scott suggested using archived social media posts in our certification application as documentation.

Discussion was on Kevin The Compost Man dropping out of the compost market and Dolph from One Compost Can is asking us to create awareness for his composting service. We can like another post with our personal social media account. Joann will invite Dolph to come to the October 12 Farmers Market, which will highlight local businesses.

WEBSITE (Scott) - Scott caught up with adding GT meeting agendas and meeting minutes to the website and will put in information on the Harvest Fair.

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For Future Discussion

- WATER QUANTITY AND QUALITY
- CIRCULAR ECONOMY PARADIGM
- RESIDENTIAL FLOODING
- NATIVE PLANTS & POLLINATORS

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept 21. 10-4: Hopewell Harvest Fair (behind Hopewell Elementary School)
- Sept 27: ANJEC Environmental Congress (Rowen Univ)
- Sept 28: Recycling at Pennington Farmers Market
- Oct 10: HV Green Team Meeting, 7:30 pm over Zoom