



Sustainable Fairfield Task Force
FOOD and WASTE subcommittee meeting

MINUTES: June 2, 2023

1. Recycling and Waste Actions:

- a. Glass Recycling pilot - There was a discussion to request this information be collected monthly and ideally placed on the town website. There was also a discussion how to encourage greater participation – ideas included: to post information at liquor stores, to reach out again to church groups, to provide a card and signage at the transfer station on what can be recycled. It was agreed to do a sign-up genius to split up who is contacting which liquor store and which church.
- b. Food waste program - We got roughly 15 additional purchases of the food waste kits during our earth month promotion. It was discussed that we need to continue to promote and one option is to request a table at the Farmers market this summer and have a sign up sheet passed around to cover the weekly times. Our table would also include information on home composting (Mary to create a short “ tip” sheet) and other SFTF programs.
- c. OOPS stickers and Clean the Stream - There was a discussion on looking into getting a grant to support temp staff to conduct the OOPS program as current DPW resources do not appear to be available at this time. Misty and Becky to discuss with John C. They will also discuss how the bid process is typically conducted on the Oakridge contracts and how many firms responded to the RFP.
- d. Seminars on recycling and composting - None planned at this time – but an idea would be to use the Farmers market table to create awareness and encourage participation this summer.
- e. School recycling initiatives / Green team - A sustainable CT grant is almost ready for submission to raise roughly \$30,000+ to allow Food waste recycling at five additional schools. We are targeting to go live by June 13th – end of school year. We will plan to add School fridges to the budget. Food rescue will now be available at the schools in the fall, each school will need to have a binder for the Food rescuer.
- f. Discount composter program - Low participation so far.
- g. Sustainable CT grant - The Green teams (Sustainability VP of the PTA council) - See above



2. Food Actions:

- a. Farmers market and sustainable food options outreach - Becky to follow up on the option to have SNAP included in this summer's farmers market
- b. Flash Food - Stop and Shop - We will ask the SFTF Communications team to help promote this program
- c. Refill program - It was discussed that the town has agreed to support this program and now we need to get Coffee shops signed up and once that is done, create awareness of the program. Becky to create a flyer and info sheet. We will need help getting coffee shops signed up – A sign up genius sheet was discussed as an option. Moms of Fairfield was discussed as one of many vehicles to create awareness.
- d. Brown paper bags at grocery stores - It was discussed that quotes from store managers would make the appeal to the RTM much stronger.