

Memorandum

To: Middletown Sustainability Committee

From: Cindy Unangst, Staff Planner

Date: November 15, 2021

RE: November Green Team In-person meeting agenda for Tuesday, October 19th –5-6:30pm at the Municipal Building and via LifeSize

**Topic: October 2021 Sustainability Committee Meeting
Time: Oct 19, 2021 05:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

Meeting link

<https://call.lifesizecloud.com/12429552>

Extension

12429552

Passcode

21769

Phone

United States:+1 (312) 584-2401

Meeting discussion items:

1. New member introductions
2. October meeting minutes approval
3. Mayors Monarch Pledge – Girl Scout Gold Award project
4. BASECAMP projects: (ask Ben and Kristin whether they want to be added to the distribution lists)
 - Pollinator demonstration gardens – spring-blooming plants and edging for Memorial Park; Village of Foxfield eyebrow and circle soil analysis and planting; meadow planting at Remsberg Park; pollinator garden care schedule; Cone Branch Pocket Park pollinator garden suggestion by Burgess Miller;
 - Compost project – bin site in Memorial Park
 - Lunch Out Of Landfills
 - Website updates, ideas ('green homes', climate change)
5. Tree plantings – Potomac Edison program for next spring; tree planting maintenance schedule (see below); Keep Maryland Beautiful grant application for EarthPlanter trees
6. Gift Tree Program – sites to install flyer boxes (3 were ordered);
7. December meeting date – third Tuesday – December 21st

GOALS FOR 2021:

PLANT 100 TREES IN 2021 – 25 planted 4/30 (75 shrubs planted in 2021)				
CREATE A TREE GIFT PROGRAM - GOAL OF \$1000 –				
QUANTIFY/SHOW PROGRESS [MEASURABLE GOAL NEEDED] ON 25% CANOPY BY 2025				
HOLD VIRTUAL GREEN EXPO - ✓				
SUPPORT MES LOOL PROGRAM - FINANCIAL/VOLUNTEER SUPPORT -				
PROMOTE & SELL 20 COMPOSTING BINS –				
PROMOTE & SELL 25 RAIN BARRELS (GRANT REQUEST)				
EVALUATE & RECOMMEND STREETLIGHT BUYBACK PROGRAM TO TOWN BOARD				
CREATE 2 AC POLLINATOR MEADOW NEAR SOLAR ARRAY				
EDUCATION ON STORMWATER PERMIT PROGRAMS				

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Green lectures series
- Habitat advisor volunteers

FUTURE PLANTING AREAS:

- North Pointe thicket (see Ann P.) – willow tree and button bushes

TREE PLANTING MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

December 7 (Tuesday) 9-10:30am – Wiles Branch FRO area
December 17 (Friday) 10-11:30am – Wiles Branch FRO area
December 21 (Tuesday) time TBD – Wiles Branch FRO area

March 8 (Tuesday) 12:30-2pm – FRO area at Alt 40/Knoll Side Lane
March 15 (Tuesday) 9-10:30am – FRO area at Alt 40/Knoll Side Lane
March 18 (Friday) 10-11:30am – FRO area at Alt 40/Knoll Side Lane

April 5 (Tuesday) 9-10:30am – North Pointe plantings
April 12 (Tuesday) 12:30-2pm – North Pointe plantings

May 10 (Tuesday) 9-10:30am - FRO area off Layla Drive
May 20 (Friday) 10-11:30am – FRO area off Layla Drive

June 3 (Friday) 10-11:30am – Wiles Branch dog park
June 7 (Tuesday) 9-10:30am – Cone Branch pocket park
June 17 (Friday) 10-11:30am – Cone Branch pocket park

Middletown Sustainability Committee Minutes October 19, 2021

1. PRESENT: Cindy Unangst, Ann Payne, Kevin Stottlemyer, Erin Carney, Mark Carney, Agnesanne Danehey, Kristen King, Gene Fleeman, Bill Spare, Edamarie Mattei & Kris Colby, [Cindy will ask Ben and Kristen if they wish to be added to our distribution list.
2. New member introductions -- Edamarie Mattei & Kris Colby of Backyard Bounty, and Karen Whitehair who is going thru the Master Naturalist program (and is a freelance writer)
3. September meeting minutes were approved.
4. MAYORS MONARCH PLEDGE - Cindy is now the Project Director and awaits a response from the lead Gold Award Girl Scout.
5. BASECAMP PROJECTS:
 - a. POLLINATOR GARDENS: Spring-blooming plants and edging for Memorial Park are planned. Erin reports that +/- 40 of the 117 Monarch cats here family collected were dry Memorial Park Pollinator Garden. Erin reported the happy news that the Richland Golf Course Manager applied to join Monarchs in the Rough. His next step will be to become an Audubon Sanctuary. The town has approved construction of the pebble border we proposed around our Memorial Park garden, installation date tba. A Memorial Park pollinator garden care schedule will be circulated by Pam and Ann. Green Team members are asked to team up with a partner to 'adopt' a month to monitor/tend the garden during the growing season.
 - i. Village of Foxfield 'eyebrow' and 'circle' soil analysis has been received. We can now supplement existing plantings. Edamarie offered to evaluate the sites and help identify plants to be removed.
 - ii. A Cone Branch Pocket Park pollinator garden, suggested by Burgess Miller, will be considered for a planting next year. Fifty+ trees and shrubs were planted there earlier this year.
 - iii. Cindy & Burgess Miller spoke to one of Ms. Steger's classes. They offered students weeding as a service credit.
 - b. COMPOST BINS – The bin site is currently planned for placement in the Elm Street parking lot. Kevin spoke to the property owner near Elm Street about the placement of the compost bin next to the dumpster behind Dempsey's. No parking spaces will be lost. There will be weekly pickup. A second barrel can be supplied at an only slightly higher cost if the first seems inadequate.
 - c. LUNCH OUT OF LANDFILLS - Joe Richardson says the waiting period at the Elementary School is over and the program is moving ahead. The older students are aware of the program.

- d. WEBSITE PROGRESS - There is a new logo for Earth Day, Green Expo. We will have a composting info area on our website. It was asked if the realtor who offered to help might be interested in helping with green housing. We would like to post Joyce Tuten's Climate slide show. The Gift Tree Program was added to our website. Gene has added a new "What's New" pop-up section.
 - e. Kris and Edamarie will send us information we can use about leaving leaf litter on the ground during the winter.
6. TREE PLANTINGS – Fifty shrubs donated by Chesapeake Bay Foundation were planted by 20 volunteers (1/2 of whom were students) on 10/15/21. Hundreds of trees and shrubs will be put on Harris Farm. Frederick Seibert & Associates will be helping with this next spring.
 7. EROSION AND RUNOFF PROJECTS - A \$1,000,000 contract for Wiles Branch Park's riparian stream restoration will be in spring 2022. An erosion control culvert will be replaced next to Cone Branch and another north of Linden. A maintenance schedule (back of agenda) has been set up and others are encouraged to join Cindy. Dates correspond to inspection times. Dates can be posted on Basecamp.
 8. MOWING - Pesticide spraying continues at Wiles Branch Dog Park. Cindy is joining the discussion to end such spraying.
 9. NEW POCKET PARK - An Eagle Scout is directing this park on W. Green and Willow. As no plant details were received by the town, Cindy will consult with the scout about appropriate native plants prior to the early November planting.
 10. GIFT TREE PROGRAM – Cindy will revisit flyer box pricing and potential locations. Flyer box should be installed at Cone Branch and on w. Main St. pocket park. We have a drawing for a gift tree grove in Cone Branch, where some tree planting has taken place. Price range is \$300-600.
 11. HERITAGE FESTIVAL – Participants were thanked. Ann will send estimated custom event table cloth prices to Cindy.
 12. COMPOST BINS – Greenbelt has extra that we can purchase, but we would need to pick them up.
 13. NEXT MEETING – 5pm, November 16
 14. Meeting ended at 6:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Payne



Town of Middletown Spring Tree Giveaway

Reducing Soil Erosion and Stormwater Runoff Into our Local Waterways Spring 2022

The Town of Middletown is partnering with Potomac Edison's "Green Teams Tree Planting Program" to offer Town residents free 5-Gallon Native Trees to plant in your yards this Spring.

Planting Trees in our yards and parks beautifies our neighborhoods, increases property values, improves air quality, and the shade trees provide keeps our homes cool and our energy costs low! BUT, did you know trees and our community canopy also play a major role in the health of our local streams and waterways, and the native species that inhabit them?

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), excessive stormwater runoff accounts for more than half of the pollution in our nation's waterways. Trees filter stormwater and reduce the overall flows that would otherwise find their way into a stormwater drain and a local waterway. Increasing our tree canopy will result in millions of gallons of reduced stormwater runoff, every year.

To REGISTER for your FREE TREE(S) and learn more about the Impact of Native Tree Plantings on Stormwater Runoff and Soil Erosion, please follow the link below to the Town's website, <https://www.middletown.md.us>, or call the Municipal Center, (301-371-6171), ext. ____.

