

Memorandum

To: Middletown Sustainability Committee

From: Cindy Unangst, Staff Planner

Date: January 9, 2023

RE: January Sustainability Committee meeting agenda - Tuesday, January 17th in person and via Lifesize

Time: January 17, 2023, 05:00 PM Eastern Time

Meeting link

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

Passcode

21769

Phone

United States:+1 (312) 584-2401

Meeting discussion items:

1. December meeting minutes approval
2. Green Lecture series with library (Ann) – Holiday Greenery decorating program – huge turnout; January 21st @ 1:00pm – Electrify Everything with Kathleen Rall and Barb Trader; Karen Whitehair program in March!
3. Outreach sub-committee report – Pollinator protection yard signs or door-hangars
4. Little Seed Library – any follow-up discussion?
5. Website updates (Gene) – terms and conditions disclaimer; connections page.
6. Green Expo – Saturday, April 22nd – sent out Save-the-Date email – good response so far
7. Bee City USA – we might just use the resolution we currently have for the IPM requirement
8. Mayor's Monarch Pledge – will plan to re-pledge for this year
9. Pollinator demonstration gardens – Memorial Park garden plant theft and response; Village of Foxfield eyebrow and circle planting; pollinator garden care and watering schedule; budget of \$2,000 – spent \$1,200 in 2022.
10. Compost project – compost bins available for purchase at municipal center – 5 sold last couple weeks!
11. Lunch Out Of Landfills – FCPS (through Travis Tracy) pays Key City Compost invoices
12. Tree plantings – tree planting maintenance/inventory schedule (see below); Ben Fritton tree planting offer; SilvoCulture grant for fruit and nut trees (Ann); Arbor Day tree planting will be Friday, April 28th in pm
13. Tree trails – Bethany, forestry board member, joined us to help with tree id on Cone Branch trail; still stumped on exact species of chestnut and hickory. New trees to add to Wiles Branch tree trail – white ash and black willow.

14. Tree City USA – Cindy submitted the Tree City annual report, as well as the Growth Award application
15. Gift Tree Program – flyer boxes at Wiles Branch Park, Memorial Park and on Cone Branch Trail – please monitor as you frequent those areas; another new application came in!
16. Utility work in Glenbrook and impact to street trees -
17. Recycling event – will look to continue program biannually with next event on March 11, 2023.
18. No Idle Zone – discussion
19. Trex plastic bag collection - discussion
20. Streetlight program – discussion
21. Volunteer thank you luncheon for committee – end of January/early February
22. February meeting date – third Tuesday – February 21st

GOALS FOR 2023:

PLANT 100 TREES IN 2023 –								
GIFT TREE PROGRAM - GOAL OF \$1000 –								
QUANTIFY/SHOW PROGRESS ON 25% CANOPY BY 2025								
HOLD GREEN EXPO -								
SUPPORT MES & MMS LOOL PROGRAM - VOLUNTEER SUPPORT -								
PROMOTE & SELL 20 COMPOSTING BINS – 3 sold								
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:

- Habitat advisor volunteers

TREE PLANTING MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

February 7 (Tuesday) 12:30-2pm – FRO area at Wiles Branch Park
February 10 (Friday) 10-11:30am – FRO area at Wiles Branch Park
February 17 (Friday) 10-11:30am – FRO area at Wiles Branch Park

March 10 (Friday) 10:30-12pm – FRO area at Alt 40/Knoll Side Lane
March 14 (Tuesday) 12:30-2pm – FRO area at Alt 40/Knoll Side Lane
March 17 (Friday) 10-11:30am – FRO area at Alt 40/Knoll Side Lane

DRAFT December Middletown Sustainability Team Meeting Minutes

Date and time: Tuesday, December 20, 2022, 05:00 - 6:15 PM Eastern Time

In Attendance: In-person and Virtual: Cindy Unangst, Pam McDonald, Bill Spare, Kristin King, Ann Payne, Sean O'Keefe, Agnesanne Danehey

Meeting Minutes:

1. November meeting minutes approved.
2. Green Lecture series with library (Ann) – Holiday Greenery decorating December 17th @ 1:00pm-Cindy said this was well attended—over 20 people. Kristin attended the Olive Oil tasting and it was also well attended! January meeting will be on “electrifying everything” by the multi-faith climate alliance. Karen Whitehair will present the program in March!
3. Outreach sub-committee report –Little seed library update: Ann has been discussing this with Cracken (sp) and she is designing a speaker series to accompany the seed library. Ann discussed including the master naturalist to help with the native seed component. The library is fine with that. Ann mentioned having Edamarie as a speaker, which would be a great addition. Cindy shared information about door hangers that have been created by the Arbor Day Foundation and are free for us to use and can be customized. We could add a back side to the hanger about native plants/pollinators. The Outreach committee will follow up with this.
4. Website updates (Gene) – terms and conditions disclaimer—Cindy shared draft of the town’s website user policies, terms, and conditions that will include the Green Team website. The town attorney is reviewing this.
5. Green Expo – date for next year – Saturday, April 22nd – Earth Day! Cindy has sent out Save-the-Date email to vendors. Cindy said she already has confirmation of many vendors wanting to participate in the event.
6. Bee City USA – need to start working on IPM for next year’s submittal. Mark reported he is working on a declaration that states that the town does not use chemicals on landscaping or in parks. The town will need to ensure that its contractors for grounds maintenance comply with this mandate. Cindy shared the resolution that the town already has had in place since 2017 and Mark will check to Bee City USA to see if this will suffice for their IPM requirement.
7. Mayor’s Monarch Pledge – Cindy submitted the annual report, and it has been approved. Cindy shared the annual report.
8. Pollinator demonstration gardens –Budget of \$2,000; spent \$1,200 in 2022. The plants in the Memorial Park pollinator garden have not been replaced yet. Pam will follow up with Edamarie to see if Backyard Bounty is still willing to replant the garden. If not, we will order plants in the new year.

9. Compost project – compost bins available for purchase at municipal center. There are 15 available for purchase. There were 595 lbs. of compost collected in November—which was a big number for the time of year.
10. Lunch Out Of Landfills – no update. Abby Lapadula is selling beeswax wrap to raise money for lunch out of landfills for expansion to the high school. Southern Frederick Rotary Meeting on February 2 (meets at the YMCA in Urbana) will have Ben Friton as speaker. It = would be great to have Green Team members at that meeting. Time TBD. Funding source for continuing the LOOL was discussed—there is hope that Rotary or one of the Rotarians will continue to fund the Middletown program.
11. Tree plantings –Agnesanne discussed the density of new trees planted at the Middletown Park and wondered if they were too dense. Cindy reported that the density is set by the state and mirrors what native forests have. It is expected that the total survival rate will be around 65%.
12. Tree City USA – Cindy submitted the Tree City Annual Report and the Growth Award application. Cindy reviewed her report and application with the team. The town had twice the number of needed points for the growth award! (20 total!)
13. Gift Tree Program – flyer boxes at Wiles Branch Park, Memorial Park and on Cone Branch Trail. There are two new gift tree applications that Cindy is processing—will be adding a magnolia and a fringe tree to the tree grove at Linden on that Cone Branch Trail.
14. Utility work in Glenbrook and impact to street trees—Erin, Mark and Kevin are attending a meeting at Glenbrook HOA tonight to discuss that impact on trees in that community. The new Internet provider, Shentel, will be present at the meeting along with the Burgess and Commissioners.
15. Recycling event – will look to continue program biannually with next event on March 11, 2023. Cindy will be inserting a flyer into the next town water bill about the recycling event.
16. No Idle Zone - discussion. Cindy showed how you can purchase “No Idling Zone” street signs online—Myersville has No Idling Zone/ Children Breathing signs that were part of a campaign by the students that has been successful. Ann suggested the Green Team write a letter to the FC BOE and encourage No idle zones at schools and moving to electric vehicles for bussing kids. Action item: Pam and Ann will draft a letter.
17. Green Schools: Cindy attended information session about this and will have more information to come. Wolfsville and Myersville are already Green Schools—we could contact them to learn more about how they got started and steps they took.
18. Buy Back streetlights program: No new information. Cindy and Ann discussed coordination with area churches and concerns about extraneous lighting.
19. Cindy is continuing to try to coordinate Frederick County Green Teams
20. January meeting date – third Tuesday – January 17th

RESOLUTION NO. 17-07

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE MIDDLETOWN SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE AND GREEN TEAM RESOLUTION ON ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING POLLINATORS

WHEREAS, the Middletown Sustainability Committee recommends the Town of Middletown support pollinator populations by modeling pollinator friendly practices and by educating its citizens about pollinators, including disseminating information about the ways residents can help, due to currently unsustainable threats to the survival of these pollinators; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Middletown is applauded by the Sustainability Committee for having already adopted many safer, less expensive, and more effective Integrated Pest Management practices for pest control; and

WHEREAS, in order to spare pollinators, the Town and its residents can avoid purchasing “pest-free” plants, which may contain systemic poisons harmful to pollinators; and

WHEREAS, the Town and its residents can boost both pollinator food and habitat by decreasing the size of lawns and increasing more diverse garden areas; and

WHEREAS, the Town and its residents can help many pollinator species by installing plants that provide nectar (food) and habitat.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Burgess and Commissioners of Middletown that recognizing the importance of pollinators to the well-being of all, the Town of Middletown resolves

to:

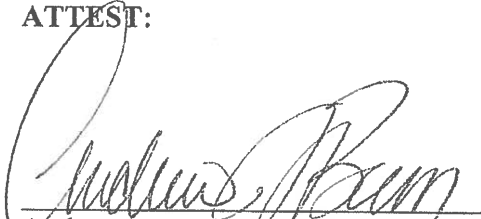
- Continue managing land it owns or operates following best Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices. The town will continue to avoid the use of pesticides, will purchase and apply only pollinator-safe products, and will continue to seek new pollinator-safe methods of control and management. The town will seek sustainable means of controlling all 'pests' including weeds, insects, and diseases.
- Support efforts to educate the broader community about these actions and stress their importance.
- Urge all businesses, homeowners, and homeowner associations within the jurisdiction to avoid the purchase and application of pesticides and other products hazardous or lethal to pollinators.
- Discourage those within its jurisdiction from the unnecessary cosmetic use of hazardous lawn and garden chemicals and instead encourage and support Integrated Pest Management Practices for control, including appropriate plant selection and maintenance.
- Review its mowing practices in order to raise grass to the IPM recommended 2.25 to 4" height in areas used for recreational purposes and raise grass to the legal 8" height in appropriate non-recreational areas.
- Add fewer exotic non-native plants, which may choke out and replace native plants and/or provide inadequate nutrition for pollinators, and, instead, install more native perennial plants; identify and dedicate potentially pollinator-friendly areas, such as the new Wiles Branch Pollinator Meadow currently under construction; continue creating habitat by replacing unnecessary turf grass with trees, shrubs, subshrubs and herbaceous plants known to shelter pollinators; and leave some areas with brush piles, bare earth patches and fallen trees so that native pollinators can nest.
- Review its bid solicitation documents so as to insert specifications for pesticide materials; assure pesticides, when used, are applied by Maryland Department of Agriculture Certified Applicators¹¹; review existing contracts, service agreements and de-centralized purchase of products to screen for unsafe chemicals; and request IPM in bids and contracts with landscapers, pest-management companies, and other independent contractors engaged by the town.

INTRODUCED ON THE 23rd DAY OF October, 2017

PASSED ON THE 13th DAY OF November, 2017

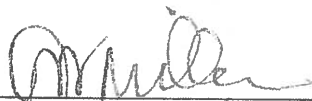
EFFECTIVE DATE: November 13, 2017

ATTEST:



Andrew J. Bowen, Town Administrator

BURGESS AND COMMISSIONERS
OF MIDDLETOWN

By: 

John D. Miller, Burgess

Middletown Sustainability Committee and Green Team
A Resolution on Issues and Recommendations Concerning Pollinators

*"The consequence of a dying bee population impacts man at the highest levels on our food chain, posing an enormously grave threat to human survival. . . Mankind will not survive the honey bees' disappearance for more than five years."*¹

Albert Einstein

GLOSSARY

- Cosmetic Pesticide Use - pesticides used for non-essential applications to alter the appearance of landscape features such as lawns, trees, and gardens.
- Essential Pesticide Use - pesticides used for serious infestations, e.g, rampant invasive species, health concerns, poisonous, structural damage (termites, etc.),
- IPM (Integrated Pest Management) - a scientific approach to plant management based on prevention, monitoring, and other techniques that limit the use of pesticides to essential use.
- Pesticide - a broad term that refers to chemicals used to kill insects, plants and fungi
- Pollinator - an animal that moves pollen in a way that enables plants to reproduce, i.e., pollinators cause plants to make fruit or seeds.

Approximately 87.5 percent of the earth's flowering plants depend on pollinators such as butterflies, moths, bees, beetles, other insects, and some birds and mammals.² We humans depend on pollinators for one in every three bites of food we consume. Due to currently unsustainable threats to the survival of these pollinators, the Middletown Sustainability Committee recommends the town of Middletown support pollinator populations by modeling pollinator friendly practices, many of which the town already practices, and by educating its citizens about pollinators, including disseminating information about ways we can help.

Global attention focussed on pollinators when alarming honey bee losses were first noted in 2006. (Because honey bees are an agricultural commodity, they are more easily counted than many other pollinators). In 2017, we continue to see the whole earth's bee population shrink. A recent study of 1437 native (North American) bee species found more than half are in decline, with one in four slipping toward extinction.³ The UN's 2016 IPBES report predicts that globally more than 40% of insect pollinators - particularly bees and butterflies - will soon face extinction.⁴ Many of Maryland's important agricultural crops, valued at \$2.3 billion (2012), depend on

¹<http://www.globalresearch.ca/death-and-extinction-of-the-bees/5375684#sthash.A2Xk8lHF.dpu>

² <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1600-0706.2010.18644.x/abstract>

³ http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/campaigns/native_pollinators/pdfs/Pollinators_in_Peril.pdf

⁴ <https://www.ipbes.net/article/press-release-pollinators-vital-our-food-supply-under-threat>

pollination for their productivity. Last year, our state suffered the fifth highest honey bee loss in the United States, at a huge 60.9%.⁵

The iconic North American migrating Monarch butterfly population is also suffering a precipitous decline. Hundreds of other native pollinators species, although more difficult to quantify, are known to be disappearing as well. Many land birds rely on pollinator larvae to feed their young. U.S. breeding land bird populations have dropped by over one billion individuals since 1970.⁶

CAUSES

Suspected causes for declines in pollinator populations include toxic chemicals, habitat loss, changes in weather patterns (climate change), diseases, and parasites. Modern gardens, farms, and lawns are often treated with fungicides, insecticides, and herbicides which are top suspects in recent catastrophic pollinator loss. Decorative exotic (non-native) landscape plants, popular in our gardens, replace native plants and often provide little or no nutrition or habitat for pollinators. Some are systemically pre-treated with chemicals lethal to insect pollinators..

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM)

Integrated Pest Management is an effective and safe scientific approach to pest management based on prevention, pest identification, monitoring, use of safe alternatives to pesticides, and the use of pesticides only when appropriate. The UN's [Food and Agriculture Organisation](#) says that by considering the best techniques and integrating controls, interventions "discourage the development of pest populations and keep pesticides and other interventions to levels that are economically justified." These controls also "reduce or minimize risks to human health and the environment."⁷

Middletown's Sustainability Committee applauds the town of Middletown for having already adopted many safer, less expensive, and more effective Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices for pest control. IPM on the town's land uses a variety of effective natural control techniques that reduce risks to human, pet, and pollinator populations.

ROLE OF HABITAT LOSS

Roadways, chemically treated lawns, development, and agricultural mono-cropping contribute to habitat loss, a critical factor in pollinator disappearance. Turf grass is commonly mowed too short to provide habitat, and, when cultivated as a monocrop (one species only, unmixed with other low-growing and flowering species), provides no nectar to feed pollinators either. Seventy percent of native bee species are ground nesters, unable to nest in short, dense turf or thick mulch. By decreasing the size of lawns and increasing more diverse garden areas, the town of Middletown and its residents can boost both pollinator food and habitat. A number of

⁵<http://www.baltimoresun.com/features/green/blog/bs-md-honeybee-decline-20150514-story.htm>

⁶<http://www.partnersinflight.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/pif-continental-plan-final-spread-single.pdf>

⁷ <http://www.fao.org/agriculture/crops/core-themes/theme/pests/ipm/en/>

organizations provide easy-to-use planting guides. The Xerces Society, Pollinator Partnership, and the USDA have excellent, regional plant lists broken down by season. In accordance with IPM guidelines, maintaining a grass height of at least 2.25" to 4" encourages root growth, shades out weeds, increases water retention, and protects habitat for some pollinator species.

ROLE OF CHEMICALS

Commonly used fungicides, insecticides, and herbicides are top suspects in catastrophic butterfly and bee losses. Bodies of honey bees recovered from collapsing colonies in the U.S. are found to contain large amounts of toxic chemicals frequently used by home gardeners and farmers.

Neonicotinoids (neonics) are a relatively new class of insecticides. They affect the central nervous system of insects, resulting in paralysis and death. They are absorbed into every cell of a treated plant, making every part of the plant toxic. Neonicotinoids include imidacloprid, acetamiprid, clothianidin, dinotefuran, nithiazine, thiacloprid and thiamethoxam. Ornamental plants may be systemically treated with neonics, in which case the whole plant is toxic. Visits to neonic pre-treated plants can be lethal to butterflies (including monarchs), beetles, bees, and other insects. Ornamental garden plants pretreated with neonic pesticides may far exceed lethal chemical amounts recommended for agricultural application.⁸ These chemicals should be reduced or avoided altogether, especially for cosmetic application.

Cosmetic use of lawn chemicals is the use of chemicals on properties simply for appearance, rather than for reasons commonly deemed necessary. Control is typically considered necessary for invasions of noxious growths such as poison ivy, poison sumac, etc.; for highly invasive weeds such as Johnson Grass, kudzu, mile-a-minute, etc., and for venomous or disease carrying insects.

The Sustainability Committee notes with pleasure that the town of Middletown does not use toxic chemicals cosmetically on most of its park properties. In order to spare pollinators, the town and its residents can also avoid purchasing "pest-free" plants, which may contain systemic poisons harmful to pollinators.

The Maryland legislature passed the Pollinator Protection Act of 2016 to reduce the use of 'neonics,' neonicotinoid pesticides. Neonics are strongly implicated in pollinator population losses. Beginning in 2018, stores cannot legally sell neonics, except to those with certification and proof of necessity. Homeowners who possess banned or unwanted compounds can drop these chemicals off during annual county-wide Hazardous Waste Collection events.

PLANT SELECTION

The Sustainability Committee is pleased to see the town installing native trees and shrubs. By decreasing the size of mowed lawns and increasing more diverse garden areas, Middletown

⁸ <http://ento.psu.edu/publications/are-neonicotinoids-killing-bees>

and its residents can add more native plants, which provide both pollinator food and habitat, reducing the need for costly 'treatment.' The town of Middletown and its residents can help many pollinator species by installing plants that provide nectar (food) and habitat. By choosing selective native plants with 'built-in' pest control and by using more informed landscaping practices, local lawns and gardens can encourage natural pest controls (IPM) with little effort.

IN CONCLUSION

Local pollinator losses can be reversed when communities plant safe, chemical-free native plants which thrive naturally without requiring expensive treatments with hazardous chemicals. The use of lawn and garden chemicals solely for cosmetic purposes should be avoided. Integrated pest management (IPM) practices in establishing and maintaining properties are encouraged. Responsible hobby bee-keeping, as directed by and in compliance with Maryland Department of Agriculture⁹ and Frederick County¹⁰ codes, can help the declining honey bee population. Gentle cultivation and intentional plantings can protect many small bees living in our backyards.

Middletown's Sustainability Committee applauds the town's efforts in practicing sustainable land management. Residents are urged to learn as much as they can about the unsustainable plight of our pollinating species and to pursue the many simple ways to help. The Middletown Green Team and Sustainability Committee would like to share with the community more detailed information about how to make the transition to sustainable garden and lawn care practices.

NOW, THEREFORE, RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF POLLINATORS TO THE WELL-BEING OF ALL, THE TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN RESOLVES TO:

- Continue managing land it owns or operates following best Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices. The town will continue to avoid the use of pesticides, will purchase and apply only pollinator-safe products, and will continue to seek new pollinator-safe methods of control and management. The town will seek sustainable means of controlling all 'pests' including weeds, insects, and diseases.
- Support efforts to educate the broader community about these actions and stress their importance.
- Urge all businesses, homeowners, and homeowner associations within the jurisdiction to avoid the purchase and application of pesticides and other products hazardous or lethal to pollinators.
- Discourage those within its jurisdiction from the unnecessary cosmetic use of hazardous lawn and garden chemicals and instead encourage and support Integrated Pest

⁹ http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/apiary_inspection.aspx

¹⁰ <http://frederickbees.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/ordinance.pdf>

Management Practices for control, including appropriate plant selection and maintenance.

- Review its mowing practices in order to raise grass to the IPM recommended 2.25 to 4" height in areas used for recreational purposes and raise grass to the legal 8" height in appropriate non-recreational areas.
- Add fewer exotic non-native plants, which may choke out and replace native plants and/or provide inadequate nutrition for pollinators, and, instead, install more native perennial plants; identify and dedicate potentially pollinator-friendly areas, such as the new Wiles Branch Pollinator Meadow currently under construction; continue creating habitat by replacing unnecessary turf grass with trees, shrubs, subshrubs and herbaceous plants known to shelter pollinators; and leave some areas with brush piles, bare earth patches and fallen trees so that native pollinators can nest.
- Review its bid solicitation documents so as to insert specifications for pesticide materials; assure pesticides, when used, are applied by Maryland Department of Agriculture Certified Applicators¹¹; review existing contracts, service agreements and de-centralized purchase of products to screen for unsafe chemicals; and request IPM in bids and contracts with landscapers, pest-management companies, and other independent contractors engaged by the town.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

IPBES (2016): S.G. Potts, V. L. Imperatriz-Fonseca, H. T. Ngo, J. C. Biesmeijer, T. D. Breeze, L. V. Dicks, L. A. Garibaldi, R. Hill, J. Settele, A. J. Vanbergen, M. A. Aizen, S. A. Cunningham, C. Eardley, B. M. Freitas, N. Gallai, P. G. Kevan, A. Kovács-Hostyánszki, P. K. Kwapong, J. Li, X. Li, D. J. Martins, G. Nates-Parra, J. S. Pettis, R. Rader, and B. F. Viana (eds.). Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, Bonn, Germany. 36 pages. *Summary for policymakers of the assessment report of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services on pollinators, pollination and food production.*

Pollinator Partnership and NAPPC. *Selecting Plants for Pollinators: A Regional Guide for Farmers, Land Managers and Farmers in the Eastern Broadleaf Forest Oceanic Province*; <http://pollinator.org/assets/generalFiles/EasternBroadleafOceanicrx20FINAL.pdf>

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, *Plants for Pollinators* (https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/national/plantsanimals/pollinate/?cid=NRC_S143_022326)

¹¹http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/pesticide_regulation.aspx

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation. *Xerces Model Policy to Protect Pollinators from Harmful Pesticide Exposures*, <https://xerces.org/pesticide-local-policy/>

SPRING RECYCLING EVENT – SATURDAY, MARCH 11TH, 2023

Plan now to collect items that can be recycled or re-used and take them to our spring recycling event on Saturday, March 11th which is also the Town's next bulk trash day. Items that will be collected in the parking lot behind the Middletown Municipal Building include used clothing and textiles, metals, paint cans (\$5 each) and electronics. See below for the details.

Used clothing – collected by Helpsy: <https://www.helpsy.co/>

It's hard to believe but over 85% of clothes wind up in the trash! It's the norm to recycle plastics, glass, metal and paper but sadly clothes, shoes, and accessories have long been ignored. In fact, 10% of our landfills are textiles. That's 100 pounds per person, per year. HELPSY is a for-profit corporation with an environmental mission to radically change the way people think about clothing recycling. They make reusing and recycling your clothes and shoes more convenient and easier than ever.

Metals – collected by Knights of Columbus member, Bill Traub

The money collected from the sale of the metal is distributed to local charities and the funding is primarily used by the Middletown Ministerium to pay for supplies used for the Community Days of Service to area residents who are in need of repairs to their homes and properties.

Paint cans – collected by Yuck Old Paint: <https://yuckoldpaint.com/>

Good, reusable paint is distributed to international humanitarian construction projects, stateside theater groups and local licensed contractors. Paint that is not usable is appropriately processed for proper legal disposal per state regulations so that it is no longer a threat to the water and soil tables. The charge per paint can is \$5/each.

Electronics– collected by The Buddy Project: <https://www.thebuddyproject.org/>

The Buddy Project will take just about everything except tube style monitors and televisions. All computer hard drives are wiped to DoD standards or destroyed and proof of destruction is offered as well as a tax deduction. The organization is headquartered in Frederick and is dedicated to helping disabled and low income individuals. Their service provides refurbished computers to those who are intellectually and developmentally disabled, and the computers are set up specifically for those clients.