

Memorandum

To: Middletown Sustainability Committee

From: Cindy Unangst, Staff Planner

Date: July 10, 2023

RE: July Sustainability Committee meeting - Tuesday, July 18th in person and via Lifesize

Time: July 18, 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. June meeting minutes approval
2. Green Lecture series with library – REED Center food forest tour had an attendance of about 10-12 folks; Reducing Mosquito Populations with Paul Leisnham on July 15th had 12 people attend; discussion about video recordings; next up – Karen Cannon with Mobilize Frederick on August 12th speaking about climate change preparedness;
3. Little Seed Library –Tomato Expert speaking on June 24th (did anyone attend?); next up: Natural Ways to Deal with Pests, Fungus & Disease on July 22nd at 2pm.
4. Outreach sub-committee report – the committee will meet later in the season to work on preparing for the Heritage Festival
5. Pollinator demonstration gardens – Memorial Park garden – proposed list of plants to install this fall in space currently filling up with Rattlesnake Master seedlings, and small group weeding party to remove unwanted seedlings; Village of Foxfield eyebrow and circle planting – being watered three times a week; need to figure out a care schedule; Cindy met with the HOA – although it was a positive meeting, there has been no follow-up from them;
6. Compost project – compost bins available for purchase at municipal center - we only have four left; we will coordinate with Fred. Co. Dept. of Energy & Environment for fall compost bin and rain barrel program;
7. Tree plantings – tree planting maintenance/inventory schedule (see below); letter of support for SilvoCulture grant request;
8. 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.
9. Tree City USA Growth Award potential projects– Cindy will start recruiting help to work on Growth Award projects.

10. Gift Tree Program – gift tree application came in for a redbud to be planted this fall; QR code decals have arrived and been placed on brochure holders; Ryan is cutting the plexiglass to place the other decals with Cindy and Mark coming up with locations for them to be placed.
11. Recycling event – fall event will be held on Saturday, October 21st with a time frame for the event of 9am - Noon; Cindy to report on The Crayon Initiative, FCPL book recommendations, and Bikes for the World.
12. Trex plastic bag collection – we can still take plastic bags, etc to MES during the summer M - TH
13. Battery recycling at the Municipal building – we received the box and Cindy will work on how to promote the use of it along with the Outreach Committee.
14. Wildlife Habitat Advisors program
15. REED Center class – Supporting the Bees – Saturday, September 2nd at 12pm – building bee hotels and learning how to support the health and well-being of bees and other insects.
16. August meeting date – third Tuesday – August 15th

GOALS FOR 2023:

PLANT 100 TREES IN 2023 – 135 planted in April ✓								
GIFT TREE PROGRAM - GOAL OF \$1000 – \$358 paid in April								
QUANTIFY/SHOW PROGRESS ON 25% CANOPY BY 2025								
HOLD GREEN EXPO - ✓								
SUPPORT MES & MMS LOOL PROGRAM - VOLUNTEER SUPPORT -								
PROMOTE & SELL 20 COMPOSTING BINS – 8 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
- Dark Sky policy

TREE PLANTING MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

- July 25 (Tuesday) 9-10:30am– Cone Branch pocket park pruning**
July 28 (Friday) 9-10:30am – North Pointe pruning and staking
August 4 (Friday) 8:30-10:00am – maple tree pruning at Remsberg Park

**DRAFT - MIDDLETOWN SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE/GREEN
TEAM**

Minutes - June 20, 2023

Present: Cindy Unangst, Kevin Stottlemyer, Mark Carney, Bill Spare, Ann Payne, Sean O'Keefe, Agnesanne Danehey, Kristin King

May Minutes were approved.

Our meeting was covered by the Frederick News Post today.

GREEN TALKS at the Library continue. The most recent was Sara Gibson of Frederick Beekeepers. On July 15 at 1pm, U of MD's Dr. Paul Leisnham will speak on how to reduce our mosquito population. A tomato expert will speak on June 24th at 2pm. The Reed Center visit was postponed until next week.

OUTREACH: The Outreach Subcommittee will begin working on the fall Harvest Festival program later in the season.

FOXFIELD PLANTINGS: The town is generously watering the Foxfield eyebrow and circle plantings three times a week. Cindy is speaking to the HOA next week to recruit some maintenance help with establishing the plants until they have matured enough to shade out competitors. Gift cards were purchased for the two workers who helped Edamarie install the plants.

COMPOST BINS/RAIN BARRELS: We have four compost bins left from our last order. There was a lively discussion in which we agreed that we prefer to work with FredCo Energy and Environments Program. Products will cost slightly more for purchasers but will still be very discounted and can be ordered online for pick up. Sales will begin in August/September for later pickup. By coordinating rain barrel and compost bin purchases at the county level, we will no longer struggle to purchase and sell these items. It was suggested the

FredCo E&E program could function as a resource supplier for local Green Teams. They might wholesale purchase trees, pollinator plants, educational materials and more for us.

TREE CITY GROWTH AWARDS: Cindy wants to be proactive in our application for this award by including our tree survival inventory, young tree training by removal of tubes and poles.

The town is hoping to purchase 28 floodplain acres for additional parkland and tree planting. Anna Twigg of DNR is helping with Healthy Forests, Healthy Waters grant to plant trees near the Hollow Road water tank, including three years maintenance (we provide the next five).

SOLAR PANELS: The Town Administrator has applied for a technical assistance grant with MEA for design and feasibility study to install solar panels around the water tank.

PATHWAYS: We agreed to address Parks and Rec to request extended pathways from Foxfield to the new plantings. It was also suggested we create an expanded brochure about and inventory of our park trees.

GIFT TREE QR CODES: Mark created attractive Gift Tree QR code pieces that have been put on the existing three boxes in the parks. More are available to adhere to plexiglass sheets to existing posts in Foxfield and elsewhere. His design is stored on Basecamp.

A MIDDLETOWN GLEN resident and his wife contacted us for advice about three of the six bioswale filtration plantings in MG which they felt were not adequate. It was agreed that, as the HOA is responsible for bioswale maintenance and the county inspects/approves stormwater entities, that we should point this family to those organizations for resolution of their concerns.

PLASTIC FILM: The TREX plastic film recycling program at MES continues, having collected 562 pounds of plastic film this past year.

We considered possibilities, such as acquiring a bailer to make huge bales of plastic film, but, ultimately, we decided this might be something the county should consider. We prefer to take our plastic film to the school.

RECYCLING: Cindy is inquiring into recycling organizations who show up for the Boonsboro fair each year. We agreed to get a Recycle My Battery collection bin for the town hall. Once the bin is full, it will be picked up and shipped free to the organization. We could promote as “Bring your batteries and pick up your yard bags.” Each battery is placed in an electrostatic plastic bag (not appealing to all). We may talk to schools or the new library to pick up this program.

Our next drive-through recycling event will be held Saturday, Oct. 21 from 9-noon.

NIGHT SKY COMPLIANCE: There is interest in pursuing a night sky ordinance for the town. The new development next to Safeway will have low level lighting. The Memorial Hall apartment’s lighting did not follow lighting placement guidance, which must be redone.

NEXT MEETING: July 18, 5 pm.



MONTHLY SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

START DATE: 5-01-2023

END DATE: 5-31-2023

Town of Middletown
313 S. Church St
Middletown, MD 21769



OFFSET EQUIVALENTS:



CO₂
EMISSIONS
FROM

18

GALLONS
OF GAS
CONSUMED



GREENHOUSE
GAS
FROM

410

MILES
DRIVEN
BY AN AVERAGE
PASSENGER VEHICLE



CARBON
SEQUESTERED
BY

3

TREE
SEEDLINGS
GROWN FOR
10 YEARS



CO₂
EMISSIONS
FROM

19,463

SMART
PHONES
CHARGED

COLLECTION WEIGHTS:

Total Weight: 454 lbs (0.2 Ton)

**4539 METROPOLITAN COURT
FREDERICK, MD 21704**

**240-608-0283
INFO@KEYCOMPOST.COM**



MONTHLY SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

START DATE: 6-01-2023

END DATE: 6-30-2023

Town of Middletown
313 S. Church St
Middletown, MD 21769



OFFSET EQUIVALENTS:



CO₂
EMISSIONS
FROM

44

GALLONS
OF GAS
CONSUMED



GREENHOUSE
GAS
FROM

1,000

MILES
DRIVEN
BY AN AVERAGE
PASSENGER VEHICLE



CARBON
SEQUESTERED
BY

6

TREE
SEEDLINGS
GROWN FOR
10 YEARS



CO₂
EMISSIONS
FROM

47,441

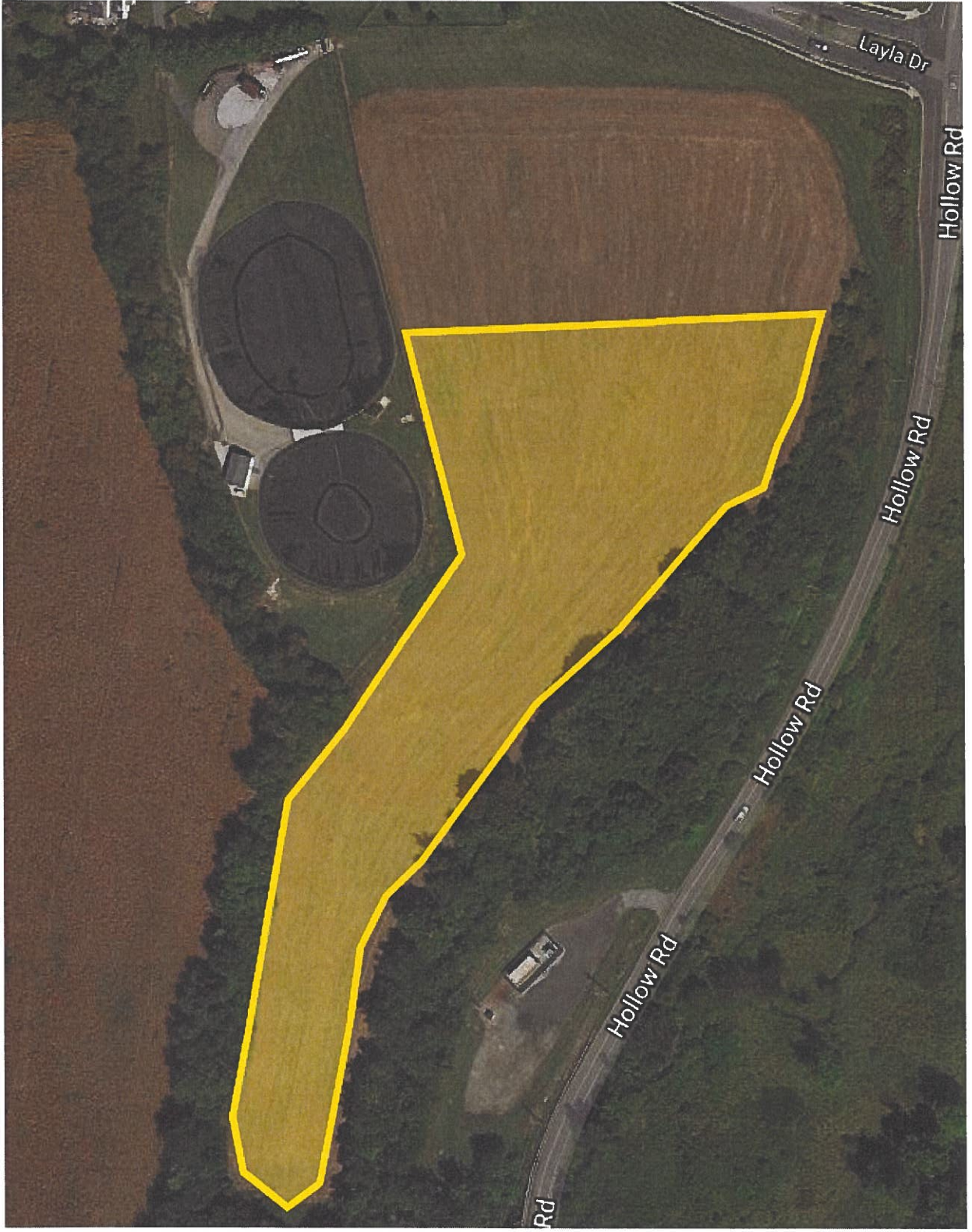
SMART
PHONES
CHARGED

COLLECTION WEIGHTS:

Total Weight: 1,094 lbs (0.6 Ton)

**4539 METROPOLITAN COURT
FREDERICK, MD 21704**

**240-608-0283
INFO@KEYCOMPOST.COM**



3.8 acres

Survival Monitoring

4 Points

ELIGIBLE EACH YEAR

During the year, sponsors of community tree planting programs (see D1) conducted field inspections and reported survival data on trees planted within the past five years.

Documentation

ON APPLICATION summarize results of survival and growth for the year

UPLOAD *optional*

Young Tree Training

4 Points

ELIGIBLE EACH YEAR

A program of care for newly planted (<5 years old) trees was performed during the year. As needed, each tree was pruned to improve structure and eliminate root defects, mulched, watered, and/or treated for pests/disease.

Documentation

ON APPLICATION describe program of work, include number of trees <5 years old maintained

UPLOAD *optional*

Pro Tip:

not eligible with D9 (Systematic Maintenance)

Openspace Acquisition

5 Points

ELIGIBLE EACH YEAR

Openspace land (such as forest, woodland, prairie, riparian corridors, etc.) was acquired during the year, either through purchase, donation, or long-term agreement (such as a conservation easement) and will be made available for public use.

Documentation

ON APPLICATION describe tract(s) acquired, ecological significance

UPLOAD *optional*

Publications

3 Points

ELIGIBLE EACH YEAR

During the year, the city or nonprofit partner published and distributed new or updated materials for the public about tree planting and care (such as the list of recommended street trees, pruning instructions, etc.).

Documentation

ON APPLICATION describe publication content

UPLOAD *optional*

Pro Tip:

eligible for new publications or revisions

Tree Inventory Portion

3 Points

ELIGIBLE EACH YEAR

During the year, a portion of the public tree-by-tree inventory was completed or updated and entered in the management system.

Documentation

ON APPLICATION describe area surveyed, tree numbers, percent of total trees

UPLOAD *required: pdf of summary data report*