



Sustainable Delaware

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 2012

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Anniversary	1
Recyclable Holiday	1
Anniversary cont'd	2
Board Changes	2
Holiday cont'd	3
Calendar	4
Farmer's Markets	4

Happy Anniversary Sustainable Delaware!

Sustainable Delaware Ohio celebrated its 3rd anniversary during the November business meeting, and founding member Sheila Fox brought a brief history of Sustainable Delaware Ohio (SDO) to share with everyone there. Here is a synopsis of the history of SDO and the many projects it has been a part of over the last three years.

In the fall of 2009, the Delaware Gazette advertised the initial meeting in the "Green Notebook" column and on November 9 the first meeting was held. The ideas that surfaced at that initial meeting included food, clean energy, water quality, walkable/bikeable transportation, promoting local, how to shop locally, a co-op, presenting the movie "Food Inc.," creating a brochure, website, and blog and creating links to OWU, libraries, newspapers and markets.

In the spring of 2010, SDO participated in the local Earth Day event, our first public appearance, as well as working on a sustainability resolution to present to the city of Delaware. By



Waste water treatment plant tour.

that summer we had the Sustainable Delaware website and the Google group up and running and started to work on SDO's goals based on our mission and how we can positively impact our community. September saw SDO partner with Preservation Parks in the Green-Wise Fair, and in October, MORPC asked us to present their *continued on page 2*

A Recyclable Holiday Season

Winter has some of the largest waste producing holidays, from wrapping paper and bows to the plastic and cardboard that all the gifts come packaged in. But with a little pre-planning, you can make your holiday more eco-friendly.

To start, plan to use recycled and recyclable products. Some of the biggest offenders are wrapping paper, bows and ribbon. Traditionally these products are made from materials that are not recyclable, so the first step is to use prod-

ucts that are recyclable and, if possible, made from recycled materials. Some companies now make recyclable wrapping paper, such as EarthPresents.com, and wrapping paper made from recycled materials.

Try replacing wrapping paper with kraft paper found at office supply stores and brown paper bags, both of which can be decorated with crayons, markers, stamps, etc. This is a great way to add a personal touch to your gifts. *continued on page 3*

Happy Anniversary! (cont'd)



Sustainable Delaware's booth at the Green-Wise Fair.

"You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give."

– Winston Churchill

Green Pact to Delaware city council, which we did in place of the sustainability resolution that was being worked on. November saw the creation of the board of directors for SDO to help with managing the organization.

Between the fall of 2010 and the winter of 2011 SDO planned and showed the movies "DIRT" and "The Story of Stuff", followed by panel discussions. In March 2011 members of SDO went to Buckeye Valley grade school in Ostrander to give "Reduce, Re-use, Recycle" programs to 2nd and 4th graders. The remainder of that spring and into summer saw several tours given by SDO; we toured SIMS recycling center, the Drinking Water Treatment Facility and the Waste Water Treatment Plant. We also partnered with the city on river and park clean ups. That summer, SDO tabled every week at the farmer's market, worked with the 2nd Friday Film Series, and reported on actions taken by the Shade Tree Commission, especially regarding extreme "trimming" done by AEP. Also in June SDO participated in "Exploring Delaware Trails", a guided bike ride of local trails, with members volunteering at stations on the ride. In July and August the Central Ohio Green Pact was adopted by the City of Delaware, SDO again partnered in the Green-Wise Fair, members started the Delaware Local Menu Project, and it was

suggested having the Delaware Golf Course designated as an official Audubon Society Golf Course. That fall, SDO submitted a request to Delaware city council to change the city ordinance to allow the keeping of chickens within the city limits.

By the spring of 2012, SDO purchased and had installed the first bike rack in downtown Delaware, on the west side of Sandusky St., but the proposed chicken ordinance change failed. Summer saw two more bike racks installed on the east side of Sandusky St. and the continuation of the 2nd Friday Film Series. In the fall, SDO partnered again with Preservation Parks for the Green-Wise Fair and SDO members gave several re-skilling classes at the fair. The first Sustainable Delaware Newsletter came out in September, and the Green Energy Ohio Tour in October featured two SDO members on the tour with their recently installed solar panels.

It has been a wonderful three years with many great projects, and Sustainable Delaware would like to thank all the wonderful volunteers who have taken the time and energy to support the organization and who have helped to make all these projects come to fruition.

Thank you and Happy 3rd Anniversary!



Roxanne Amidon and Jen Warner

Board Members Stepping Down

Having served two year terms, Sustainable Delaware bids fond farewell to two original Board members, Roxanne Amidon and Jen Warner. Roxanne has provided Sustainable Delaware with crucial leadership and organization. She was responsible for creating and maintaining both the website and Facebook page and was instrumental in building partnerships with many other organizations. Roxanne launched a variety of creative programs, including the Local Menu

week, and helped provide essential revenue selling rain barrels.

Jen Warner was also a member of the original board. Jen's infectious enthusiasm and energy have been inspirational as have her many posts on the Sustainable Delaware Facebook page. In addition, her professional photography has helped document many SDO events. Sustainable Delaware salutes Roxanne and Jen's service to the organization.

Recyclable Holiday (cont'd)

Gift bags can also be reused, and plain ones can be personalized. A cloth bag is the ultimate in reusability. Or wrap presents in the comics section of the newspaper, or use fabric left over from other projects, cut from old clothes or



Holiday lights sent in for recycling.

purchased at the fabric store as remnants. For some interesting folding options, see http://www.recyclenow.com/what_can_i_do_today/furoshiki_japanese_w.html.

Bows and ribbons can be made from alternative materials such as silk or paper, which are easier to recycle. Holiday cards made from recycled materials can be purchased and many can be recycled as part of your normal paper recycling. Additionally, just as with wrapping paper, you can make your own cards, adding that special touch. After the holidays, you can donate Christmas cards to St. Jude's Children's Ranch to be reused. For more details, go to <http://www.stjudesranch.org/shop/recycled-card-program>.

Christmas trees deserve some thought, too. Artificial trees are economical, but when they outlive their usefulness, they may be hard to recycle; metal and wood parts can be separated, but it may be difficult to recycle the leaves, often made of PVC. Real trees make for a more recyclable holiday, since they can be picked up by the city or dropped off at landscaping companies such as Price Farms Organics to be made into mulch. Also, growing trees provides environmental benefits, as a single tree can absorb over one ton of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide in its lifetime. Not to be

forgotten is a live tree, which can be planted after its time spent as a Christmas tree, extending its environmental benefits.

To many, the holidays mean twinkling lights. With the advent of energy efficient LED lights, however, what do we do with the old incandescent lights? There are a number of recycling programs available. Holidayleds.com and Christmas-Light-Source.com both offer discounts on their products when you send in old lights to be recycled, as well as some local stores such as Home Depot..

An alternative to recycling is to reuse as many holiday items as possible; many can be reused as originally intended or be made into crafts and projects. Wrapping paper can be refreshed by gently ironing on the back to smooth out the wrinkles. Cloth ribbons from the fabric store can be reused. Commercial bows are easily reused with a little tape or glue to secure them in place. Many wrapping papers also make great origami paper or can be made into bows (<http://recycledreadsAustin.wordpress.com/2012/11/16/recycled-crafts-how-to-make-paper-bows/> and <http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Paper-Bow>), cut into tags, used in scrapbooking, or for many other paper crafts. Holiday cards can be made into ornaments (<http://www.allfreecrafts.com/cards/ornaments.shtml>) tags, placemats (sandwiched between contact paper), bookmarks, etc. Artificial trees can be reused; the branches can be wound together to make a pine garland or wreath. Lights can also be used year round for lighting a pergola, a walkway, etc.

With a little forethought, you can make your holidays very recyclable. Happy Holidays to everyone from Sustainable Delaware Ohio!

Join the Mob!

On the last Friday of each month, Main Street Delaware's Cash Mob event offers a fun way to support local businesses. Up to a dozen or more participants gather at the Main Street Delaware office at 20 E Winter St., departing promptly at 6pm as a happy "mob" of shoppers, each promising to spend at least ten dollars at that evening's chosen shop. Each month, a different Main Street Delaware member business is randomly chosen. Whether it be beer, books or bikes, the



Cash Mob!

shop- pers then descend on the selected store as a group and give it a surprise sales boost. The evening may end with mob members enjoying one of the local restaurants together. Want to join in the fun? Just meet at 20 E. Winter St. a few minutes before 6pm on the final Friday of each month to await the announcement of the Cash Mob destination store!



Our Mission: *Sustainable Delaware is a group of citizens focused on promoting environmental, social and economic sustainability for the Delaware community through awareness, advocacy and action.*

Editor: Matt Vogt

Contributing Authors:

Sheila Fox

Kelly Vogt

Matt Vogt



Visit us on the web at www.sustainabledelawareohio.org and on Facebook at Sustainable Delaware Ohio

The City of Delaware will be picking up Christmas trees (without bags, lights, decorations, etc.) for recycling on regular collection days by the yard waste truck beginning January 7th through February 1st. Please check with your local city officials or waste collection company to see when your local pickup time will



Winter Farmer's Markets

Powell Winter Farmer's Market

December 8 and 22 and in January 12 and 26 10a to 1p East Community Room at 47 Hall St, Powell

Worthington Winter Farmer's Market

Saturdays 10a to 1p The Shops at Worthington Mall, 7227 N. High St, Worthington

December Calendar

12/7/12	6p	First Friday; Downtown Delaware ^E
12/8/12	9:30a - 11:30a	Sustainable Delaware Meeting; Delaware County Library, Main Branch ^A
12/8/12	6p - 9p	A Holiday on the Farm; Gallant Farm Preserve ^B
12/11/12	1p - 3p	Herbal Study Group; Stratford Ecological Center ^C
12/16/12	2p	Cocoa and Crafts; Gallant Farm Preserve ^B
12/22/12	12p - 5p	Make and Take Nature Ornament; Deer Haven Preserve ^B
12/23/12	12p - 5p	Make and Take Nature Ornament; Deer Haven Preserve ^B
12/28/12	6p	Ca\$hMob; Meet at the Main Street Delaware office ^D

A. <http://www.sustainabledelawareohio.org/>

B. <http://www.preservationparks.com/events-calendar/>

C. http://www.stratfordecologicalcenter.org/programs_events/calendar_details.html

D. <http://www.mainstreetdelaware.com/cash-mob.html>

E. <http://www.mainstreetdelaware.com/first-friday.html>