

Green Team (GT) Notes from March 15, 2011 --Thanks everyone.

Attendees— Carmen Holtzman, KC Alexander, Kim Trella , Mary Sherwin, Chris Malik, Connie Mendolia, Roslyn Reeps, Maritza Pagan, Robin Bennett, Judy Prill, Kim Czapla, Tom Ouellette, Jenn Weymouth, Jim Creighton, Nicole Lugli, Shane Mulready, Patricia Porter, Pauline Blackstock, Diane Foberg

1. Updates from programs about their P2 work with business and other members of the public and regulated community.
 - Tom Ouellette updated the group on the work of OLISP, including outreach to the boating community, the Clean Marina program, etc. Tom noted that the Clean Vessel Act prohibits dumping of sanitary sewage anywhere in LIS. The extensive network of pump out stations at marinas contributes to the success of the dumping prohibition. The Clean Marina program is a two stage process. First the marina pledges to the program and works toward certification which is the second step in the process. Re-certification is conducted on an annual basis. Certified Clean Marinas get a number of ways to publicize their status, including a flag to fly. There was some discussion about progress slowing on new certifications due to lowered staffing levels resulting in the elimination of an outreach program.
 - Chris Malik from WPLR watershed program reviewed a number of projects being developed in the Hartford Capitol corridor, including Connecticut Square, which would transform the SOB parking lot into a greener space usable for other events--such as concerts--in the times when it's not in use by the state for parking, i.e., evenings and weekends. The design would also incorporate "green infrastructure" type elements, e.g., trees, bioswale, etc.
 - Other projects Chris reviewed included: Greening Capital Avenue, a two-day workshop to bring "green" elements and development along the avenue from about Lawrence Street to Main Street and the river; the Hartford-New Britain Busway, the I-84 viaduct project.
 - Robin Bennett, Recycling unit, announced that she is bringing the composting "worm box" back to the DEP's 4th floor. Robin will use the worm box to demo composting in educational outreach programs.
 - Robin also announced that she will be taking over the ReSupply Center coordination.
 - Robin announced a number of events that are part of this year's Earth Day focus on Forestry and wildlife. It is the UN Year of the Forest.

2. Greening DEP Open House discussion and feedback

The committee (Katie Dagon, Roslyn Reeps, Jenn Weymouth, KC Alexander, Cyndy Chanaca, Mary and Connie) met last week and sketched out a program. The proposed program would start in the Phoenix with welcoming remarks and introduction from the Commissioner and/or Deputy Commissioner, an overview of what DEP has done, and breakout sessions going into more hands-on detail on energy, recycling, composting, cleanouts/ReSupply Center, transportation, purchasing, and gardens, including the Hartford Green Capitols project.

Kim Czapla proposed that we ask agencies to commit to starting a Green Team at their offices and provide them with a manual to guide them.

It was also suggested that we use technology to show what we have done by creating slide shows for the different areas and have everyone go to breakouts on one floor and then encourage them to tour one thing—e.g., compost operation, gardens, etc.

The committee will need volunteers to compile data on cost savings for the following:

- ReSupply Center (e.g., estimate costs of items reused)
- Energy Savings
- Waste Disposal Savings
- Paper Use Savings
- Green Purchasing savings from the 2010 training

The committee's next meeting will be 3/24 at 9:30. Let Connie or Mary know if you are interested in joining us.