

Green Organizing Action Team (GOAT) Noat for January 2020

HELP CURE THE PLASTIC PLAGUE STARTING ALMOST NOW

Tuesday, Nov. 12, 7-8:15 PM (Fourteen people attended)

Tuesday, Dec. 10, 7-8:15 PM (Fourteen people attended)

This two-part workshop, developed and facilitated by Bess Keller, explored actions we can take to reduce and eventually eliminate plastic use. We learned about the scope of plastic pollution, discussed our responses and started to implement steps toward the goal of eliminating single use plastics. We got a lot of help from the group with practical tips and common sense practices. Bess prepared an extensive list of resources used and/or referenced in the workshop. Please see that resource below.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2020

The plastics workshop responded to a clearly perceived need expressed in a Homewood GOAT (Green Organizing Action Team) survey of meeting members and attenders. In 2020, we will continue to provide educational workshops and films, opportunities for environmental service and advocacy, and experiences that will help us to live greener lives and move us toward zero waste.

Current GOAT members are Carol Beck, Gary Gillespie (Clerk), Polly Heninger, John McKusick, Stephan Rogers, Bess Keller, and Rachael Neill. GOAT is an open committee that meets monthly on the 3rd Sunday at 9:15 AM in the Library. We would love to hear your questions, concerns, and ideas. The next meeting will be held on Sunday, January 19th. If you would like to request or suggest an agenda item, please contact Gary at garygillespie80@gmail.com.

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From Plastic Pollution Workshop part 1

1. "What Really Happens to the Plastic You Throw Away"—a TEDEd lesson by Emma Byrne; think it was originally made for or sponsored a company that does chemical analytics https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_6xINyWPpB8
2015

2. "Plastic Ocean"—adaptation by the UN from the original documentary "A Plastic Ocean" by the Plastic Oceans Foundation
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ju_2NuK5O-E
2017
3. "Why Paper Bags Are Worse for the Planet Than Plastic"—BBC News report
<https://www.bbc.com/reel/video/p07r72xb/why-paper-bags-are-worse-for-the-planet-than-plastic>
2019

From Part 2

1. How One Man Started the Largest Beach Cleanup
BrightVibes (Amplify the Good in the World)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vxsxe_7JDFg
2018
2. Cleaning 9m kgs of Trash: Dhruv Rathee interviews Afroz Shah
Dhruv Rathee, a leading political YouTuber
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t0ka45g4Fyc>
2019
3. The Nondisposable Life
Lindsey Miles, TEDxPerth
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hb9uEbUaREE>
2016
4. Living Plastic Free
Beth Terry (Greenbelt, MD, TEDxGreatPacificPlasticPatch)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3JXWRVrFiKs>
2010

Additional materials

Liz Flyntz, who joined us for pt 2, helped create this excellent Power Point presentation full of valuable info on plastic use, pollution and recycling. It is part of a collaborative art-science project. From Liz: We are interested in the intersection of plastic pollution and the food system, but this research led us to a lot of insight into the problem of plastic pollution globally.
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1u5itYWPftA7ymabVLy0CF5_jz4QAlphqc4StXk_nO3g/edit#slide=id.p1

Interview with the mother of 3 young children and a business owner who cut out half her plastic use; many specifics

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n5Qbi_dB3Qo

<https://marylandpirg.org/blogs/blog/usp/thinking-about-reducing-plastic-waste-your-life>

Canadian Broadcasting Company recently produced a fascinating 4-part series about plastic packaging, recycling and the plastic crisis. This one of the series has two families, a “regular” one and one that is trying to minimize plastic in their household, swap places. Also the reluctance of Canadian’s biggest chains to talk plastic, and a grocery store in England that has rejected unnecessary plastic packaging.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n5Qbi_dB3Qo