

Jul 13, 2022 |

## 📅 First Meeting of the MA Green SWoRD Reusables Working ...

Attendees: Eve Carey Gail Sowerder Garron Heather Billings Kathi Mirza  
Micaela Guglielmi Rachel Smith Samantha Salvatore Wendy Millar-Page

### Notes

- Attendees
  - Only two munis were represented: Eve Carey - Sharon, Wendy Millar-Page - Winthrop
  - Other attendees were DEP and CET
  - We need more munis participating in this subgroup to take on the workload
- Reusables to consider
  - Dish Machines
  - Trays
  - Plates
  - Utensils
    - hard to wash, get thrown away
    - Use magnet top for trash can to grab utensils
  - Milk Dispenser
- Target Groups
  - Food Service Directors
  - School Chief Financial Officers
  - Facility Managers
  - Superintendents
  - Custodial Staff
  - Kitchen Staff
- How
  - Use Waste Ban Enforcement as a catalyst
  - Work with supply companies - [Sodexo](#), [Chartwell](#), [Aramark](#) - these are sometimes employees of school districts
  - Work with community activists - ex. Styrofoam ban will get rid of trays
  - Grants
    - [Plastic Free Restaurants](#) - subsidizes food trays for up to \$5/item
    - MassDEP - [RDP](#) funding and [Micro-Grant](#) (rolling)
- Schools to use as examples
  - New Bedford
  - Framingham
  - Fitchburg
  - Lexington
  - Townsend
  - Palmer

## Action items

- ☐ GSG to talk with MACs about schools that can set the example for Reuse
  - ☐ Get a school (or a few schools) to present at a meeting to get more people involved in Reusables Subgroup
  - ☐ Have a session on Reusables in Schools during RecyclePalooza
- ☒ ~~Reach out to DESE (MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education)~~
- ☒ ~~Green Team has a superintendent list - Rachel to look into~~
  - ☐ Consider sending out a survey with yearly email to collect data

## Dec 6, 2022 | 📅 Green SWoRD Reusables Subgroup Meeting

Attendees: Fritzie Nace Gail Sowerder Garron Heather Billings Kathi Mirza  
Micaela Guglielmi Rachel Smith Samantha Salvatore Wendy Millar-Page Heather Billings

## Notes

### Check Ins

#### Winthrop

- Heather - CET
  - Assistance to school districts through Recycling Works
    - Recycling, composting, reusables
- Wendy - Winthrop
  - Looking for assistance to help in the schools
  - She has a champion in each school
  - Some resistance in cafeteria - they work with Black Earth
  - Airmark is their vendor
- Kathi - Boston
  - DESE contact at conference - DESE contact: Nicole Good, School Wellness Specialist, W 781-338-6473, nicole.good@mass.gov
  - Micro grants
  - Shout outs to champions - custodial staff
- Fritzie
  - DPW composting pilot at elementary schools - 2 before covid
  - Facilities Director is starting up composting
    - Fritzie to assist
    - Starting back from scratch
    - Food services determines what trays get purchased
  - Reusables
    - Styrofoam trays are back in schools again
    - Custodian to decide whether they go in the trash

- New school - wants to make it a full kitchen
- Rachel - manages Green Team

#### School Conferences

- DESE Contact - Wellness Champion - Nicole Good
  - Sends out a newsletter that we can contribute to
  - Survey to their audience
  - Have her speak at a meeting
- Statewide PTA contact
- Agawam, Franklin & Framingham have at least some schools using reusable trays

#### 2023 Goals

- Don't have to buy it if it's already there - make admin look at reusables differently
- Getting assessment of reusables/bring Nicole in
- Newsletter blurb about micro-grants
- Superintendents and Business Admins newsletter
- Info by March 30 to get into school budgets
- Researching vendors in the area - with costs
  - Quality of reusable trays
  - Grant for Reusables
    - Plastic Free Restaurants
    - Rethink Disposable
  - Dishwasher costs
- Get them on OSD pricing/state contracts
- Reach out to current schools
  - Wellesley, New Bedford, Framingham, Agawam, Franklin
  - CET is talking to New Bedford for Green Team special project

#### Action items

- ☒ ~~Kathi to reach out to Nicole~~
- ☐ Fritzie to reach out to Food Service Directors in Agawam, Franklin & Framingham
  - ☐ Invite them to a reusables meeting, possibly MassRecycle Conference
- ☐ For Earth Day - Earth Week - All reusables - Wendy
  - ☐ Work with our Events subgroup

- Next meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2023 at 9:30am

## Jan 17, 2023 | 🗓️ Green SWoRD Reusables Meeting

School Waste Reduction and Diversion - Green SWoRD Google Site

<https://sites.google.com/beverlyma.gov/k-12-waste-reduction-diversion/home>

Attendees: Eve Carey Gail Sowerder Garron Heather Billings Kevin Dawson  
Micaela Guglielmi Nicole Good Rachel Smith Samantha Salvatore Brooke Nash  
Matthew DeMarrais - Needham - New Superintendent at Transfer Station  
Andy Costello - Medfield Recycling Committee  
Janice Pare - MassDEP MAC NE1  
Ben Schleifer - Center for Environmental Health (CEH)

### Notes

#### Guests:

- Nicole Good - School Wellness Specialist, School Nutrition Office, Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE)
- Kevin Dawson - Farm to School Coordinator, School Nutrition Office, DESE
- Ben Schleifer - Food Program Coordinator, Center for Environmental Health (CEH)

#### Introductions & Check Ins

- Eve Carey - Sharon
  - Using reusable plates
  - Connected Special Education program with the Food Service Team and the students are going to start washing dishes as part of their vocational training
- NEW - Matthew DeMarrais - Needham
  - Compostables go to Agricycle - Digester in Maine - expensive
- NEW - Andy Costello - Medfield
  - Recycling Committee is interested in seeing program out there to learn

#### Nicole & Kevin - School Nutrition Office, DESE

- Schools transitioned to grab & go method during Covid
- Back to National Food Service Program
- Free lunches again
- Schools are still using plastics
  - Need to reach more schools
- Kevin brought in for issues around recycling
- They want to go back to normal school meals before Covid
- There has been an increase in tonnage
- Monthly newsletter
  - Food service managers, etc
  - Food tonnage
  - Put information for Green SWoRD into newsletters

- Commissioners weekly update
- Surveys
  - Survey with schools that have dishwashers
- Share success stories

#### Ben - CEH

- Invite folks from facilities to Green SWoRD Meetings - they oversee custodial staff
- Reusables
  - Emeryville Reusable Slide deck  
<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1LarT6-ft8RC3isH-crzRRYAoYmqbZkmh5AXRMv40Sx8/edit?usp=sharing>
  - Pictures of Reusable roll out at Bay Farm  
[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1uZsqshs6mlBy0hrxgrfEn6goa8T6qV9a2\\_N7ksFUV-o/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1uZsqshs6mlBy0hrxgrfEn6goa8T6qV9a2_N7ksFUV-o/edit?usp=sharing)
  - CEH Ditching Disposables Toolkit  
<https://ceh.foleon.com/ceh/ditching-disposables-toolkit/>
- Dish machine
  - Survey from Washington State
  - Washington Workgroup for Sustainable School Cafeterias - Cafeteria Survey: Facilitated by ZeroWasteWashington.org  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1f7KCpBG3\\_ixWU5Y8OWSUnd111Zy4HTxHJzYomWtH85o/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1f7KCpBG3_ixWU5Y8OWSUnd111Zy4HTxHJzYomWtH85o/edit)
  - Labor piece is big - increasing hours is not that easy to do
  - Dish machines - hard to use
    - Free dish machine maintenance - Eco Lab - when you use their detergent
- Stainless steel - can get grants
  - Plastic Free Restaurants Flyer  
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f42ad4952c37e122281f800/t/621409a0ea080754b0ee2398/1645480352739/Schoolflyer.pdf>
- PFAS embedded in some compostable trays
  - CEH Webinar: GreenScreen Certified™: PFAS-free and Preferred Food Service Ware  
<https://ceh.org/webinar-greenscreen-certified-pfas-free-and-safer-food-service-ware/>
  - Safer States Bill Tracker <https://www.saferstates.org/bill-tracker/>
- Alternative to styrofoam containers
  - Polystyrene Fact Sheet  
<https://ceh.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Polystyrene-Factsheet.pdf>
  - PFAS (forever chemical) free compostable container
  - Ben will share list of products - 75% had PFAS
    - CEH Single-Use Foodware Public Database 12-15-2021  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1sNwuTxMwNMKfLo0B033ObIXQzkja5nJwv\\_MNSEcr6HM/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1sNwuTxMwNMKfLo0B033ObIXQzkja5nJwv_MNSEcr6HM/edit?usp=sharing)
    - Starting to see shifts

- Paper food boats with wax coating
  - 3 lb food boat
- Plastic reusable plastic basket with liner
- Supply chain is a major issue
  - Vendors for paper goods restrict how much schools can get
  - Reusables remove that issue
  - Linen service as an alternative
- Milk dispensers - most cost effective
  - Children only take the quantity of milk they want
  - Milk is colder
  - School of 500 can save \$7,000/yr
  - Dual stream milk dispenser - Gives 2 milk options as required
    - different fat levels, chocolate, plant based milk
    - \$3,500 per dispenser
    - needs to be plugged in
    - give them a cup first
    - Water refill stations aren't always nearby
  - Silver King SKMAJ2-ESUS4 12 gal Refrigerated Milk Dispenser  
[https://www.katom.com/086-SKMAJ2ESUS4.html?gclid=Cj0KCQiAn4SeBhCwARIsANeF9DIgi37BG6VArA6MRdMAPxnshnRPUa2W3d0oZhRwNY\\_7fNQY4dJM\\_Zt0aAoO2EALw\\_wcB](https://www.katom.com/086-SKMAJ2ESUS4.html?gclid=Cj0KCQiAn4SeBhCwARIsANeF9DIgi37BG6VArA6MRdMAPxnshnRPUa2W3d0oZhRwNY_7fNQY4dJM_Zt0aAoO2EALw_wcB)
  - Novato Unified K-12 Milk Dispenser Cost Analysis With Reusables Food Ware Verison 2.0  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Dvv2dAVha81c6NjDoNsOfRGr7\\_S22xFxAjf7m02n\\_sc/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Dvv2dAVha81c6NjDoNsOfRGr7_S22xFxAjf7m02n_sc/edit?usp=sharing)
- MassDEP microgrants - up to \$5k
  - Apply for a MassDEP Reduce, Reuse, Repair Micro-Grant  
<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-a-massdep-reduce-reuse-repair-micro-grant>
  - Milk dispenser & electrical work, water filling stations
- Local dairies
  - Hood, Garelic Farms
  - Bag in Boxes (BIB)
  - Contact Dairies and see if they are willing to do it
  - 1 BIB per day - 5 gallon - 300 meals per day - 500 students
  - Cooperative buying agreements among schools for milk?
    - State contract - Garelick Farms - start with them? BIB
    - Sudexco, Chartwells, Earmark
      - Milk in blanket contract
  - Trays specific to carry milk
    - Milk goes in middle due to weight
- Share tables - Food Share Table and Donation Guides for Schools  
<https://www.stopwaste.org/at-school/resources/food-share-table-and-donation-guides-for-schools>

- Relatively easy to start with a share table
- Each school district deals with their own BOH
- DESE checks for authorization on file
- Try to make it formal across district
  - Signage
  - On wheels
  - Chill pack for milk
  - Staff education
  - Put systems in place for what to do with leftover food
    - Donate to local food bank

## RESOURCES

Ben Schleifer, CEH

- Emeryville Reusable Slide deck  
<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1LarT6-ft8RC3isH-crzRRYAoYmqbZkmh5AXRMv40Sx8/edit?usp=sharing>
- Pictures of Reusable roll out at Bay Farm  
[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1uZsqshs6mlBy0hrxgrfEn6goa8T6qV9a2\\_N7ksFUV-o/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1uZsqshs6mlBy0hrxgrfEn6goa8T6qV9a2_N7ksFUV-o/edit?usp=sharing)
- Washington Workgroup for Sustainable School Cafeterias - Cafeteria Survey: Facilitated by ZeroWasteWashington.org  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1f7KCpBG3\\_ixWU5Y8OWSUnd111Zy4HTxHJzYomWtH85o/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1f7KCpBG3_ixWU5Y8OWSUnd111Zy4HTxHJzYomWtH85o/edit)
- CEH Ditching Disposables Toolkit  
<https://ceh.foleon.com/ceh/ditching-disposables-toolkit/>
- Plastic Free Restaurants Flyer  
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f42ad4952c37e122281f800/t/621409a0ea080754b0ee2398/1645480352739/Schoolflyer.pdf>
- Food Share Table and Donation Guides for Schools  
<https://www.stopwaste.org/at-school/resources/food-share-table-and-donation-guides-for-schools>
- CEH Webinar: GreenScreen Certified™: PFAS-free and Preferred Food Service Ware  
<https://ceh.org/webinar-greenscreen-certified-pfas-free-and-safer-food-service-ware/>
- Safer States Bill Tracker  
<https://www.saferstates.org/bill-tracker/FilterBills>
- CEH Single-Use Foodware Public Database 12-15-2021  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1sNwuTxMwNMKfLo0B033ObIXQzkja5nJwv\\_MNSEcr6HM/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1sNwuTxMwNMKfLo0B033ObIXQzkja5nJwv_MNSEcr6HM/edit?usp=sharing)
- Silver King SKMAJ2-ESUS4 12 gal Refrigerated Milk Dispenser  
<https://www.katom.com/086-SKMAJ2ESUS4.html?gclid=Cj0KCQiAn4SeBhCwARIsANe>

[F9DIgi37BG6VArA6MRdMAPxnshnRPUa2W3d0oZhRwNY\\_7fNQY4dJMZt0aAoO2EALw\\_wcB](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Dvv2dAVha81c6NjDoNsOfRGr7_S22xFxAjf7m02n_sc/edit?usp=sharing)

- Novato Unified K-12 Milk Dispenser Cost Analysis With Reusables Food Ware Version 2.0  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Dvv2dAVha81c6NjDoNsOfRGr7\\_S22xFxAjf7m02n\\_sc/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Dvv2dAVha81c6NjDoNsOfRGr7_S22xFxAjf7m02n_sc/edit?usp=sharing)
- Polystyrene Fact Sheet  
<https://ceh.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Polystyrene-Factsheet.pdf>

Brooke Nash

- Apply for a MassDEP Reduce, Reuse, Repair Micro-Grant  
<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-a-massdep-reduce-reuse-repair-micro-grant>

Gail Sowerder Garron

- MA School Waste Reduction and Diversion Working Group - Green SWORD Google Site  
<https://sites.google.com/beverlyma.gov/k-12-waste-reduction-diversion/home>

Action items

- ☐ Fritzie to reach out to Food Service Directors in Agawam, Franklin, Framingham, South Hadley
  - ☐ Invite them to a reusables meeting, possibly MassRecycle Conference
- ☒ ~~For Earth Day - Earth Week - All reusables - Wendy~~
  - ☒ ~~Work with our Events subgroup~~
- ☐ Continue conversions with DESE
  - ☐ Get info into newsletter
  - ☐ Contact Statewide PTA contact
  - ☐ Reusables Data?
    - ☐ Dishwashers
  - ☐ Survey?
- ☒ ~~Gail to update Green SWORD Google site with resources~~
- ☒ ~~Next meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2023 at 11am~~

**Mar 9, 2023 | 📅 Green SWORD Reusables Subgroup Meeting**

Attendees: Andy Costello Fritzie Nace Gail Sowerder Garron Heather Billings  
Kathi Mirza Micaela Guglielmi Rachel Smith Sonya Williams Wendy Millar-Page

Check Ins



- Andy - Medfield
  - Started conversation about dishwashers in schools
  - Working on RDP
  - New school being built - include dishwasher
- Wendy - Winthrop
  - No one will meet with Wendy regarding Black Earth composting at schools
  - Push back about reusable water bottles
    - alternative containers for water
- Fritzie - Winchester
  - Contact with Superintendent with rebuild of existing elementary school
    - Looking at working kitchen
    - Hadn't considered reusable trays
  - Meeting with group of parents in different elementary schools about Green Teams
    - Using styrofoam trays again
    - Cardboard trays difficult due to supply chain
- Rachel - MassDEP
  - Reached out to OSD about having reusables on State Contract
    - Dishwashers GRO40
    - Cafeteria supplies (paper and compostable only on it currently) GRO40
    - Milk Dispensers - not on state contract
      - Bag in a Box (BIB) not on dairy contract
  - Will have follow up call next week
- Kathi - MassDEP
  - When building new schools:
    - CHPS or LEED standards
      - Get in contact with Facilities Director and Food Services Director
    - Deconstruction and Reuse

#### Action items

- ☐ DESE Newsletter
  - ☐ Food Waste information - Gail
  - ☐ Locker/Desk Cleanout - Wendy
    - ☐ Focus on one thing at a time
    - ☐ Share table for school supplies
    - ☐ Lost and found
  - ☐ Updated food code and share table guidance - Gail
- ☐ Fritzie to reach out to Food Service Directors/Facility Maintenance Managers - Fritzie in Agawam, Franklin & Framingham
  - ☐ Fritzie to ask on Google Group
  - ☐ Invite them to a reusables meeting, possibly MassRecycle Conference
  - ☐ Aermark, Witsons, Sedexo
- ☐ For Earth Day - Earth Week - All reusables - Wendy

- ☐ Work with our Events subgroup
- ☐ Golden Lunch Box Award - least waste - put in parent newsletter
- ☐ PTA sold Lunch Skins
- ☐ Green Team website - video on reusables
- ☐ Survey Monkey that classroom can do together
  - ☐ To see where they are - teachers and students
  - ☐ Include link in Newsletters, DESE, Green Team
- ☐ Next meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2023 at 11am

## Apr 11, 2023 | 📅 Green SWoRD Reusables Subgroup Meeting

Attendees: Andy Costello Ben Schleifer Eve Carey Fritzie Nace Gail Sowerder Garron  
 Heather Billings Kathi Mirza Matthew DeMarrais Micaela Guglielmi Nicole Whitten  
 Patricia Fabbri Rachel Smith Sonya Williams Wendy Millar-Page ~~Samantha Salvatore~~

### Check Ins

- Sonja - CET
  - New Bedford Public Schools
    - Transitioning from Styrofoam to reusables
    - Will do case study
- Andy - Medfield
  - Paper bags from stores
    - Green Team 5th grade teacher
    - Shaw's - gave bags, offered money and food
    - Entire class, not just club participated
    - 75 bags
  - Schools all have bins - still issues post covid
    - No reusables
    - Energy Committee is looking into things
      - Pushing for dishwashers
- Fritzie - Winchester
  - Business Manager for School District about School recycling policy being upgraded to school waste reduction policy
    - New school being built
      - New kitchen - dishwasher - reusable trays
      - Info gathering stage
  - School committee's policy subgroup
    - Interest in moving toward reusables
    - Big transition to get dishwashers
  - Recycle-MA Google group
    - Asked about reusables

- 2 more respondents
- Kathi - MassDEP
  - New Bedford - get video clips of Facility Directors saying how easy it is!
    - Mayor is forward thinking
    - EJ community
    - Many reasons to showcase
  - Reduce and Reuse Action Plan
    - Target single use plastics and reusable plastic serviceware
      - Met with DPH
      - Will be starting stakeholder listening sessions across state
      - Understanding and obstacles
  - Case study schools
    - Share information at schools
    - Celebration assembly as best practice
- Ben - CEH - ben@ceh.org
  - Compostables trays have PFAS in them
  - Plastic Free Restaurants
    - Up to \$5 per item for stainless steel
      - \$1 for some plastic trays
    - 16,000 metal trays
      - Mobile dish machines
    - April 17 launch
    - UC Berkley study
      - Students eat more off of reusables
      - Less food waste
  - Ben can donate school interns for case studies
  - Toolkit
  - Tray questions can go to Ben
  - Director - ask about Dish machine audit
  - 3rd party washing
    - 2 sets of dishes
      - Dirty & clean
      - 3rd party comes in after hours -
        - Picks up dirties and drops off cleans
      - Doing for lunch only
    - Dish Joy, Re-dish
      - \$0.25/meal
      - <https://www.redish.com/> Plastic-based, but also offer a washing service.
- Pat Fabbri - Lynnfield
  - Plastic Free Restaurants
    - Go full reusable - paid for almost everything
      - Stainless steel trays and utensils for all the schools

- Students recommended - school committee receptive - students moved on
  - Free lunch situation is a roadblock
    - Too much work to do
      - Consider Share Table  
<https://thegreenteam.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Share-Table-Guidance.pdf> (up against 20 minute lunch) and Foodlink to pick up extra food
        - Girl Scout troop to run
    - Trouble getting staff to do the washing
      - 3rd party washing is of interest
  - For profit cafeteria
    - Winchester - Witson's
  - Using styrofoam for to go meals - cheaper
- Ben
  - Milk - small school will save about \$5k/year with a milk dispenser
    - Give them a cup - students choose type of milk or water
    - Less carton waste
    - Give students better quality milk
    - CEH will be hosting a webinar
    - Money saved can provide money to wash the dishes
    - Recess before lunch - play before they eat - more hungry - less waste
      - 30% food waste reduction
      - Report coming out of washington state
  - Avoid saying "plastic free"
    - Less packaging, plastic light
    - Makes it easier to accept
  - Condiment packets - \$0.01/packet
    - Squeeze bottles are the way to go
    - Purchasing prefilled condiments are too big for younger students
    - High school students have condiment flavor station

<https://recyclingworksma.com/how-to/recyclingworks-technical-assistance/>  
<https://thegreenteam.org/recycling-facts/food-waste-reduction/#:~:text=School%20Cafeteria%20Discards.items%20with%20classmates>

#### Action items

- ☐ DESE Newsletter
  - ☐ Food Waste information - Gail
  - ☒ ~~Locker/Desk Cleanout - Wendy~~

- ☒ ~~Focus on one thing at a time~~
- ☒ ~~Share table for school supplies~~
- ☒ ~~Lost and found~~
- ☐ Updated food code and share table guidance - Gail
- ☐ Fritzie to reach out to Food Service Directors/Facility Maintenance Managers - Fritzie in Agawam, Franklin & Framingham
  - ☒ ~~Fritzie to ask on Google Group~~
  - ☐ Invite them to a reusables meeting, possibly MassRecycle Conference
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  - ☒ ~~Work with our Events subgroup~~
  - ☐ Golden Lunch Box Award - least waste - put in parent newsletter
  - ☐ PTA sold Lunch Skins
  - ☐ Green Team website - video on reusables
  - ☐ Survey Monkey that classroom can do together
    - ☐ To see where they are - teachers and students
    - ☐ Include link in Newsletters, DESE, Green Team
- ☐ Next meeting is scheduled for May 30, 2023 at 11am

May 30, 2023 |

## 📅 Green SWoRD Reusables Working Group Meeting

Attendees: Ben Schleifer Eve Carey Gail Sowerder Garron Kathi Mirza  
Micaela Guglielmi Rachel Smith Sonya Williams Wendy Millar-Page

### Notes

### Check Ins

- Eve - Sharon
  - Reusable plates - Plastic Free Restaurants
  - High School - audit - students don't know plates are there
    - Some were in trash
    - Need to publicize and educate
    - Looking for funds
    - ORCA
      - Food waste into a machine - get's into wastewater - \$23K - \$100K machine - could get with grant funding
    - Trying to get Share Tables started up

- Audit - less food waste than they thought
    - 23 lbs from 3 lunches at high school
    - Some students were away on field trip
  - Started food waste table
    - Kids were taking food
- Ben - CEH
  - Recommended morning announcements to Eve
  - Worked with 2 schools in last month
    - Will get baseline data
    - Kids will eat more food off of reusables
    - 1.5 years out
  - 10 schools next school year
- Sonja - Recycling Works
  - Best Practices sheet
- Wendy - Winthrop
  - Having issues with cardboard boxes in trash
  - Working with high school environmental science teacher
    - Hoping to form Green Team
- Kathi Mirza - MassDEP
  - Framingham - used threat of waste ban violation to get them to recycle right
  - Got letter from recycling facility
  - Got School Recycling Coordinator
  - Set up system for moving materials with custodial staff - shutes
  - SMRP Grant - RDP grant
    - New - dishwashers and reusable dishware
      - 1 school - 1 pt
      - Majority or more - 2 pts
- Micaela - MassDEP - listening in
- Rachel - MassDEP
  - Promoting reusables on State Contract
    - Met with OSD - GRO40
      - Paper & compostable products
      - Eager to get reusable products on state contract
        - Still in scope
        - MassDEP needs to be specific in what we're asking for
          - Specific list of types of reusable products were looking for
            - Include specs
      - Make sure schools know that they can buy off state contract
      - Need specs for BIB

### Resources to focus on

- Spreadsheets with grant info with all details - deadlines, requirements, etc.
- Webinar on applying for grants - education on how to do that - look at chatbot
- Directors timeframe - find out as best practice
  - September & October - directors are bogged down
  - November & December - breathing room
  - End of year - checked out
  - Choose timing right
  - Now - get into nutrition director staff meetings
    - Mid July is planning time
- Show that it's happening somewhere else
  - Spreadsheet - include munis
  - Get munis to speak/grant support
  - Green Team - platform to share reusables info
    - Newsletter
    - August Superintendents and Principals
    - Monthly - newsletter to school contacts
    - Include survey monkey link
      - DESE - healthier programs
    - Zero Waste Washington
      - Sends surveys out to all directors in state
      - 22 responses
      - Dishwashing and dish machines
  - Mass School nutrition Association (SNA)
    - Not very active - do have calendar of events
  - Lunch Assist
    - Progressive lunch helpers
      - composting

### Action items

- ☐ Fritzie update
- ☐ DESE Newsletter
- ☐ Highlight - New Bedford - no styrofoam trays
- ☐ Ben - Milk Dispenser presentation - toxic foodware in case for reusables
  - ☐ 15 minutes for milk
  - ☐ Ben to present August 2
- ☐ Next meeting July 18 at 11am

11:09:08 From Sonja Williams to Everyone:

Share table guidance... in case it's helpful -

<https://thegreenteam.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Share-Table-Guidance.pdf>

11:09:27 From Ben Schleifer (he, him)/ CEH to Everyone:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1B3SwVcU2GOydzfB2dv55RQZhlIGlcxlUzbcgFJBwWv8/edit?usp=sharing>

11:09:39 From Sonja Williams to Everyone:

(that guidance doc was created pre covid times)

11:13:26 From Ben Schleifer (he, him)/ CEH to Everyone:

We are here to support! Banshees support group!

11:16:35 From Eve Carey - Town of Sharon to Everyone:

Framingham is actually hiring a new Recycling Coordinator right now

11:16:55 From Ben Schleifer (he, him)/ CEH to Everyone:

Can we get a link in the chat?

11:17:40 From Eve Carey - Town of Sharon to Everyone:

for which information?

11:18:04 From Kathi Mirza to Everyone:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/details-recycling-dividends-program/download>

11:19:52 From Ben Schleifer (he, him)/ CEH to Everyone:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1kZAlxQb6XrtgT9OAYziBFiV2v8UaDE8p\\_4Id2JVHR9U/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1kZAlxQb6XrtgT9OAYziBFiV2v8UaDE8p_4Id2JVHR9U/edit?usp=sharing)

11:22:16 From Rachel Smith to Everyone:

Thank you for this spreadsheet!

11:23:48 From Sonja Williams to Everyone:

<https://www.thelunchbox.org/fresh-food-initiatives/apply-for-a-grant/bulk-milk>

11:24:20 From Eve Carey - Town of Sharon to Everyone:

PFR only subsidizes plastic items \$1/unit as opposed to \$5/unit for metal btw

11:24:32 From Rachel Smith to Everyone:

Reacted to "PFR only subsidizes ..." with 👍

11:24:39 From Sonja Williams to Everyone:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_BBcA5yKrSGigX3iol2XEhg#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BBcA5yKrSGigX3iol2XEhg#/registration)

11:24:46 From Sonja Williams to Everyone:

Is this the same one, Ben?

11:26:57 From Ben Schleifer (he, him)/ CEH to Everyone:

Same one Sonja!

11:27:02 From Ben Schleifer (he, him)/ CEH to Everyone:

Thanks!

11:28:47 From Ben Schleifer (he, him)/ CEH to Everyone:

applying for grants is a good use for chatbot too!

11:45:33 From Ben Schleifer (he, him)/ CEH to Everyone:

<https://www.lunchassist.org/>

11:45:41 From Ben Schleifer (he, him)/ CEH to Everyone:

<https://www.schoolnutrition.info/>

11:46:49 From Rachel Smith to Everyone:

We should link to the GT winners press release in the newsletter as well.

Cross-promotion.



11:47:02 From Kathi Mirza to Everyone:

Reacted to "We should link to th..." with 👍

11:47:15 From Rachel Smith to Everyone:

<https://www.mass.gov/news/state-environmental-officials-announce-student-and-school-recipient-of-green-team-awards-0>

11:47:27 From Kathi Mirza to Everyone:

Reacted to "Framingham is actual..." with 👍

11:48:07 From Rachel Smith to Everyone:

By June 30

11:51:46 From Micaela Guglielmi, MassDEP to Everyone:

have to hop off a little early, great to listen in, you're all doing such awesome work!

Jul 18, 2023 |

## 📅 Green SWoRD Reusables Working Group Meeting

Attendees: Gail Sowerder Garron Kathi Mirza Rachel Smith Wendy Millar-Page Samantha Salvatore

### Notes

#### Check Ins

- Wendy- Winthrop
  - Not much happening
  - Overflow PAYT bag program
    - 1 64 gallon bin for trash & recycling
      - \$180 for second cart
      - \$3 overflow bags 33 gallon started July 1
      - First time - oops tag, second time - fine starts at \$50 (up to \$300)
        - Inspectional services helps
  - Aermark is food service company
    - Works with Black Earth
- Rachel - MassDEP
  - Want to share this case study by The Green Team which addresses reusable trays in cafeteria:  
<https://thegreenteam.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/GT-New-Bedford-Schools-Case-Study.pdf>
- Kathi

- Bulk Milk Dispenser Grant - due July 31
- RDP grant application review - reuse section
  - Using dishwashers and reusable dishware
  - Will share out information after QA/QC
- Think about Waste Free Wednesday
  - For Events Subgroup
  - Cafeteria to Classroom
- Rachel
  - East Elementary School in Hingham implemented a school-wide recycling program, enforced their idle-reduction policies, and focused much of their efforts on additional composting initiatives to reduce solid waste. They also promoted a “walk or bike to school day” to show students how they can reduce their carbon footprint by walking or biking safely in their neighborhoods. Even students that live far away, were able to meet a nearby library with their bike and still ride to school and take part in the event, which enhanced the excitement and camaraderie around the day.

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