

Cool Stuff Committee
Notes of the June 27, 2012 Meeting

Present: Amanda Sistenstien, Laura Petit, Recycling Coordinator

Meeting at the Reuse Center on Wednesday, June 27th to get some ideas about creative reuse events and activities, both to promote reuse, rethinking how people look at their garbage and disposables, and to publicize the reuse center.

As we discussed at the Transition Core meeting on Thursday, June 28th we could have reuse activities for kids like making costumes and musical instruments from reused materials and then have a parade at the 125th anniversary of the village street festival.

When the new ReUse building is finished at the reuse center we can celebrate with a reuse festival family event. We would charge a minimal fee, such as \$5 per family or something, and craft supplies would be provided etc.

We looked through the supplies and found we have materials to make:

Sculptures - pink plastic rings, little wooden pellets, wooden bases, green blue and white strangely shape wooded pieces, etc.

Books - receipt paper and cards with metallic looking pictures on them

Jewelry - TONS of little jelly rings (finger ring size) that can be made into chains for bracelets necklaces etc.

Address labels and other size labels that the kids can decorate with drawings or clippings from old magazines etc. to make their own stickers.

There is colorful napkin paper that can be used for tissue paper flowers

Patterns on tile or wooden bases with little wooden pellets in different shades

I have at home bags and bags of packing peanuts in a variety or shapes sizes and colors that can also be used for arts and crafts.

There a wooden criss-cross things that could be used to make puppets and there is fabric at the reuse center as well

Plastic tubes that can be made into glitter batons or musical instruments.

There are many already established events we could be taking part in to highlight creative reuse The Phools parade, the 125th anniversary celebration, the Regatta, COTA, and we can do our own reuse parade and festival etc.

We figure since its coming soon we can get started with the 125th anniversary celebration and create character costumes for recycling educators to wear at the event.

We also talked about reaching out to local non-profit camps like the YMCA camp and the New Paltz Youth Center to advertise our goods.

As transition we could talk to places like Lowes, Home Depot, True Value, Michaels, AC Moore, etc and encourage them to donate materials to the reuse center for a tax deduction. The town itself cannot solicit donations but transition can certainly make a friendly recommendation to these businesses to participate in a mutually beneficial exchange. They would pay less for garbage removal and get a tax deduction on something they were just throwing away.

This was just initial brainstorming, we are hoping for more great ideas from everyone!!

Submitted by Amanda Sistenstien