## Reusable Bag Campaign

Wyckoff Junior Environmental Commissioner

Lauren Markarian

## No More Plastic Bags, Please!

## The benefits of using reusable bags:

- Stores often offer incentives for using reusable bags
- Reusable bag production reduces the amount of non-renewable resources (crude oil \& natural gas) used in the plastic production process
- More sustainable and durable. They rip less and last longer


## Bring Your Own Bag

Eco-Friendly reusable bags are best!


- Reduces plastic pollution
- AND, they are better than using single-use plastic bags!!


## New Jersey Goes Green

## Wyckoff Receives Grant

"Single-use plastic and paper bags - along with disposable polystyrene food containers \& cups - will be banned in New Jersey stores \& food service establishments, effective May 2022 ... " (NJ S864)


Logo contest winner, Riley, former student at Coolidge Elementary School
"PLASTIC FREE IS THE WAY FOR ME"

In 2019, a \$2,000 grant obtained through Sustainable Jersey \& PSEG was awarded to Wyckoff to promote a campaign on reducing the use of plastic bags in town. The campaign had 3 phases:

1. Slogan \& design contest for local K-8 students. Chosen design was used on reusable bag giveaway
2. Free one-time virtual movie screening of Bag-It - an American documentary that displays the impact plastic has on society
3. Free reusable bag random drawing to movie attendees

## Wyckoff Revised Grant Proposal

$>$ Our Goal - to reduce and eventually eliminate plastic bags from the Wyckoff community. Encourage community members to use reusable shopping bags instead of plastic bags when shopping. Educate people why reusable bags are a better choice to increase participation and enthusiasm throughout the community
$>$ Why? - Plastic bags are detrimental to the environment.
 They take a very long time to biodegrade and pollute the soil and water.

## Bag It Virtual Movie Promotion

## Distributed posters to different locations in Wyckoff to promote movie:

1. Starbucks
2. Stop \& Shop
3. Shoprite
4. Marshalls
5. Wyckoff Library

## Spreading Awareness in Town!



Marshalls


Starbucks

uperiorwaterconditioning.com


Shoprite

## Bag It Virtual Movie Promotion

5y
vigWyckoffians

Please log onto this 90-minute zoom event presented by the Wyckoff Environmental Commission. We'll have subject matter experts to answer live Q\&A - Join us -- Register here:
https://us02web.zoom.us/.../reg.../WN_GzXYFgTLSvGx4R8oGUI5Zg

is yolditifetooplastic?


This insightful yet amusing American documentary movie will change how you feel about the plastics we use everyday and how they impact our lives.

Spread Awareness on Social Media to promote movie:

- Schoology at Ramapo-Indian Hills school district
- Facebook pages such a Wyckoff Moms, Wyckoffians \& Wyckoff Public Library
- Wyckoff Environmental Commission Website


## kim Angerson

A friendly announcement from the Environmental Club:
The Wyckoff Environmental Commission is having a virtual movie event tomorrow nightl Details are期
You must advance register (see the link).


IS YOUR LIFE TOO PLASTIC? WELL THEN JUST
bag it:
FREE "ONE TIME" VIRTUAL

Bag It Movie is on loan at your local Bergen
County Cooperative Library System

## Bag It Virtual Screening October 28, 2020

- Held via Zoom
- Hosted by Wyckoff Environmental Commission/PSE\&G Grant
- \# People Attended - 25
- Q\&A with ANJEC representative, Alex Ambrose, and Panelists (from Wyckoff Environmental Commission)
- Participant Survey
- Free bag giveaway



## How to Get Involved!

1. Decline the bag - hand carry items out of the store if you can
2. Bring reusable bags instead - create a habit of bringing them into the store with you
3. Shop at local markets and don't use plastic bags for loose vegetables - take your own reusable, washable Onya bags, or paper bags.
4. Recycle the plastic bags - donate your plastic bags to thrift stores for reuse or drop off plastic bags in recycling bins at supermarket locations
5. Reuse the plastic bags yourself - think of creative ways you can use the bag to save you money/time (i.e. they become small garbage can liners, holding a wet bathing suit, etc.)
6. Educate younger generation for the future

7. Sign petitions to ban single-use plastic bags in your state.

## Thank You!



This project was completed as part of the Wyckoff Environmental Commission Junior Commissioner program. Junior Commissioner Lauren Markarian, a student at Ramapo High School in the class of 2023 , took the project to its final stages assisting on the successful virtual public outreach campaign.

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## Sources

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--https://plastic.education/benefits-of-using-reusable-shopping-bags/
--https://plastic.education/how-to-reduce-the-use-of-plastic-bags/


