



WEST CHESTER GREEN TEAM NEWS

November 2025

Mission: The West Chester Green Team is a civic organization in West Chester, PA, that works to educate the local public and to establish and nourish green initiatives in the community in harmony with nature and each other, promoting the health of all living things and of planet Earth.

Inside:

Feed Our Neighbors Concert, The Auction is coming, Gifts & Thrifts returns, A tribute to Jan Bardzik, Seeing Stars, A plastic-free future, Catching up with Doug Tallamy, and lots more!



WCGT Calendar of Upcoming Events

When – What – Where.



November 15: Feed Our Neighbors Concert. See page 4 for details.

November 26: Seasons Greenings Auction begins. See page 5 for details.

November 28, Gifts and Thrifts, 8 am set up. Open hours 10 AM-4 PM, Unitarian Congregation, 501 S High Street, West Chester, PA Contact person: Aiden McFadden if you would like to help or to donate; 2-hour-long shifts need to be staffed all day long. See page 6 for more details.

For details on other November and later events, see listings beginning page 3. Also see more events at <https://wcgreenteam.com> and countywide events at <https://chescoevnt.org>.

Related groups and committees:

4th Monday of every month: East Bradford Environmental Advisory Council (EAC), 7 – 8:30pm, East Bradford Township Bldg, 676 Copeland School Rd.

4th Monday of every month: East Goshen Sustainability Advisory Committee, 7 – 8:30pm, East Goshen Township Bldg, 1580 Paoli Pike

4th Tuesday of every month: West Goshen Sustainability Advisory Committee, 6 – 8 pm, West Goshen Township Bldg., 1025 Paoli Pike

4th Tuesday of every month: Westtown Environmental Advisory Council, 7 – 8:30pm, Westtown Township Bldg., 1039 Wilmington Pike (Rt. 202)

4th Thursday of every month: West Chester Sustainability Advisory Committee, 6:30 – 8 pm, Room 240, Borough Hall, 401 E. Gay St.

Be sure to visit our Web site at <https://wcgreenteam.com/> and our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/WCGTeam/> (all are welcome to post environment- and sustainability-related items there). If you wish to support our work, please donate here: <https://wcgreenteam.com/contact-2/>

NOTE: Deadline for the December 2025 issue is November 30! We welcome contributions and suggestions from our readers for possible inclusion in a future issue. E-mail your ideas to Dianne Walsh at LDwalsh318@gmail.com.

This and That: More Coming Attractions

November 8: Westminster Presbyterian Church, 10 W. Pleasant Grove Rd, West Chester, is holding a free, drive through metal recycling event on Saturday, Nov. 8 from 9 a.m. to Noon. Accepting items up to 40 lbs, no liquids/batteries accepted.

November 8: Repair Cafe



REPAIR CAFE
DOWNINGTOWN

November 8th, 2025 10am -2pm

Central Presbyterian Church
100 W. Uwchlan Ave. Downingtown, PA 19335

Bring Your Beloved But Broken Items and Get Them Fixed... for FREE*

Everyone is welcome, you don't have to be a Downingtown resident.

AVAILABLE REPAIRS
Soft Toys - Dolls & Stuffed Animals
Computers & Electronics
Jewelry
Sharpening
Mechanical & Electrical
Things Made of Wood
Clothing & Textiles
Bikes

Limit TWO items per person!
*Lamp and bike parts available for purchase at our cost

MORE INFORMATION

 [repaircafedowningtown.com](https://www.repaircafedowningtown.com)
 repaircafe165@gmail.com
 @RepairCafeDowningtown




Flyer design by upward arrow.

November 12: Free Webinar



WEBINAR: TOXIC CHEMICALS IN PLASTICS

Ami Zota, ScD
Professor

Ryan Babadi, PhD
Science Director

Trisha Vaidyanathan, PhD
Science Director

 **Join us on Weds, November 12 at 7:00 PM ET US**

The Green Team was originally founded to help protect people from toxins. Few people realize that most plastics are created by processing petroleum products and adding many different man-made chemicals. In fact, there are more than 16,000 known chemicals added to plastics to give them various qualities - shiny, matte, flexible, hard, heat resistant, water resistant, etc. And, unfortunately, more than a quarter of these chemical additives are toxic.

Please join Beyond Plastics, and Ami Zota, ScD of Columbia University and Ryan Babadi, PhD of Toxic-Free Future on 11/12 for a free educational webinar about the toxic chemicals in plastics.

November 13: Open Space Summit

A Deep Dive into How Open Space Happens in Chester County

Join the Chester County Planning Commission and Chester County Parks and Preservation for the 2025 Open Space Summit on Thursday, November 13, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Chester County Government Services Center at 601 Westtown Rd, or join virtually. This year's summit will equip attendees with practical tools, local examples, and insider perspectives on the process of

conservation and the tools needed for proactive preservation. With approximately 40% of Chester County's land developed and over 30% preserved, the future of the remaining unprotected land depends on proactive local planning and collaboration.

[Register to attend the event in-person.](#)

[Register to addend the event virtually.](#)

FEED OUR NEIGHBORS

A BENEFIT CONCERT

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15, 7PM

Unitarian Congregation of West Chester
510 S. High St. West Chester

Featuring:

- Two of a Kind
- Lisa Jeanette
- Mark Rimple
- Dan Schatz

\$20 | Suggested donation
More if you can, less if you can't
No one turned away

All proceeds benefit the West Chester Food Cupboard and the Senior Center Food Pantry

Food Drive: Bring unexpired nonperishable food items





**November 15:
Feed Our
Neighbors Benefit
Concert**
**7 PM Unitarian
Congregation of
West Chester, 510
S. High Street**

The West Chester Cooperative, the West Chester Green Team, and the Unitarian Congregation of West Chester are jointly sponsoring a special "Feed Our Neighbors" Concert on November 15 at 7pm, with proceeds to benefit the West Chester Food Cupboard and Senior Center Food Pantry.

The concert, to be held at the Unitarian Congregation, will feature the eclectic duo Two of a Kind, singer-songwriter Lisa Jeanette, Grammy® nominated folk artist Dan Schatz, and master lutist Mark Rimple. Admission is a suggested \$20 donation – "more if you can, less if you

can't, and no one turned away." Attendees are also invited to bring unexpired non-perishable food items for the West Chester Food Cupboard.

It's Almost Time: Our Annual Seasons Greenings Auction November 26 - December 6

It's not too early to think about the holidays, so we are once again reminding you about our annual Seasons Greenings auction coming up SOON! Find the auction soon at <https://givebutter.com/c/WCGTAuction> and **LET'S GET READY TO BID!**



West Chester Green Team Presents Season's Greenings!

A virtual fundraiser auction

November 26- December 6

Items on offer:

- A house in the French Alps
- Florida Vacation Stay
- Private Soccer Lesson & Signed Shirt by Aiden McFadden
- Acupuncture Session
- Private Ice Tool Museum Tour & Baked Goods
- International Dinners
- Variety of Theater Tickets
- Children's Art Lesson
- ...And More!

Pickup at West Chester Friends Meeting or delivery possible

Support the Green Team's Educational and Community
Initiatives

Visit wcgreenteam.com for more info!

Friday, November 28: Gifts & Thrifts returns to West Chester!

Aiden McFadden, who grew up in East Bradford and is now a professional soccer player in Louisville, will be home for Thanksgiving this year. But he's not resting. To give back to the community, he is planning a second clothing swap for Friday, November 28, 10 AM-4 PM at the Unitarian Congregation of West Chester, S. High St.



Gifts & Thrifts

A pop-up clothing exchange aimed at fostering community and combating fast fashion

Our goal is to redistribute materials (mainly clothing) rather than constantly creating more



Gifts & Thrifts

Clothing donations
will be accepted until
Monday, Nov. 23rd 2025

Drop off at:
802 Kenmara Dr. West Chester 19380
(front porch or garage)
Or
409 W Union St. West Chester 19382
(front porch)



Wednesday, Dec 10: Green Holiday Workshop

5-7 pm, Sykes Student Union, Ballroom A, WCU campus, 110 W Rosedale Ave., West Chester. Contact: Margaret Hudgings (mhudgings@gmail.com). This event is for all ages.



I Can Eat THAT!?!

By Dianne Walsh (one of a series on edible plants that you might not think are edible)

Many tree leaves are edible in North America, including those from American beech and basswood (also called American linden), which can be eaten raw in salads. Other edible leaves include [birch](#), [maple](#), [mulberry](#), and [sassafras](#). It is crucial to correctly identify plants before consumption to avoid poisonous look-alikes, and it is safest to harvest young, tender leaves in the spring. Start slowly and consume small amounts at first to see how your body will react. Also, wash leaves thoroughly to remove dirt and other possible contaminants. Take only what you need and do not strip any plant of all its leaves.



- **American Beech:** Young, tender leaves can be eaten raw in salads or added to other dishes like stir-fries and soups.
 - **Basswood (American Linden):** Tender young leaves have a mild, lettuce-like flavor and can be eaten raw or used on sandwiches.
 - **Birch:** Young leaves are edible and can be used to make teas.
 - **Hawthorn:** Young leaves and flowers are edible and can be added to salads.
 - **Maple:** Young leaves are edible and can be eaten raw or cooked, but it's important to identify the correct species. **Edible maples include the sugar, silver, black, red , bigleaf, and Japanese maples.**
 - **Mulberry:** Leaves from young trees are edible and can be used in teas, soups, or eaten raw.
 - **Sassafras:** The young, aromatic leaves are edible and can be used to make filé powder for gumbo, to make tea, or eaten raw.
 - [White Pine](#): Young leaves can be used to make tea.
-

Meanwhile in Maryland . . .

Look at what Montgomery Co., Maryland, is doing. The "Native Plant Protection Act" is a proposed Montgomery County bill that aims to protect native plants by **banning the commercial sale of invasive running bamboo** and **requiring that at least 50% of landscaping in new construction projects features native plants from the Mid-Atlantic region**. Introduced by Councilmember [Evan Glass](#), the legislation seeks to reduce invasive species, support biodiversity, improve the health of the ecosystem, and require native plants in new developments.



Key provisions of the Act

- **Prohibits the sale of running bamboo:** The bill will ban the commercial sale of running bamboo, an aggressive invasive species that harms native vegetation.
- **Mandates native plants in new construction:** At least 50% of the landscaping in all new construction projects must use native plants from the Mid-Atlantic region.
- **Promotes overall native plant use:** The Act encourages the use of native plants across the county to support pollinators, improve air and water quality, reduce erosion, and build more climate-resilient landscapes.

. . . and in California: Newsom's Veto of PFAS Ban for Cookware, Other Products Puts Millions of Californians at Risk

Environmental Working Group (EWG) reports:

"Gov. Gavin Newsom's veto of Senate Bill 682, which would have banned the "forever chemicals" known as PFAS from consumer products, is a deeply disappointing setback for health and environmental protection in California," the Environmental Working Group says.

By rejecting this commonsense legislation, the governor is siding with chemical industry interests over the safety of California families. And this veto will ultimately shift the costs of cleaning up PFAS contamination of tap water to consumers, rather than ending a source of PFAS pollution.

SB 682, authored by Sen. Ben Allen (D-Santa Monica), would have banned toxic PFAS from cookware, cleaning products, dental floss and other everyday household items. These harmful substances are linked to cancer, immune system harm, reproductive and developmental problems, and reduced vaccine effectiveness.

See the source article at <https://www.ewg.org/news-insights/news-release/2025/10/newsoms-veto-pfas-ban-cookware-other-products-puts-millions/>

While other states like Colorado, Connecticut and Minnesota have already banned PFAS in consumer products, including cookware, California now falls behind

TAKE ACTION: Tell Your State Legislators to Ban Toxic PFAS!

In Memory of Jan Bardzik



In early October, Jan departed this life surrounded by her beloved family. Jan was a kind and compassionate woman who cared so much that everyone should be fed and that no one in our town should go hungry. So her family decided to ask for donations in her memory for the West Chester Food Cupboard.

The WCGT is a friend of the Food Cupboard. Last spring, at the suggestion of the Grays, owners of Kildare's, we committed to donating fresh produce for 20 weeks this summer and fall to the Food Cupboard. While attracting fewer donors than we had hoped, we were still able to give 253 pounds of fresh vegetables, with almost all of them organically grown. That's lots of lettuce and kale!

After Jan's death, a few of us who knew her well contacted her son, Ed Bardzik, a Green Team member, about a possible memorial for his mother, Jan. Together we decided on a very personal tribute: Under a Green Team initiative already in progress, we will add food and other small gifts to the baskets planned for elderly and disabled residents of the Church Street Towers in West Chester borough. The elderly citizens at Church Street Towers will have a bit of holiday cheer and those donating will be honoring Jan in a very real way.

How did we first get connected to the Church Street Towers? Well, that would be through our friend Carolyn Comitta who has been an ally and supporter since our very beginnings as an organization. She advised us on getting started with Don't Spray Me!, one of the founding groups that joined together in 2019 to form the Green Team. Carolyn, first mayor and now our state senator, was contacted by residents of Church St. Towers about getting a garden planted at their building. She connected them to the Green Team, and we are now planning together for spring planting.

Once the residents at Church Street Towers knew of our interest and support, they had a few more requests. The next project will be a Little Library right out in front of their building and included in the garden plan. Thank you, Carolyn, for your support of this initiative as well.

Returning to the memorial basket project, first, Martha Biery sourced a dozen baskets. Then Nancy Salamon added some notecards and ornaments. We approached a local dentist for some practical dental supplies and found vases at secondhand shops in which we will place bits of holly and evergreen. Another family will donate dried fruit and organic jam and soup from Trader Joe's. We will add in books and a tiny gnome to each basket to give it a holiday feel. (If you would like to donate to this project, go to our home page and click on Donate and add a note that the donation is for the Jan Bardzik memorial project.)

So that is how we are gathering materials for the project and then we need to assemble the baskets and make them look gorgeous. Groups of students from WCU and local teenaged Green Team members will do the final basket assembly at an event at WCU on Thursday evening, Dec 10. WCGT president, Karen Slossburg, and vice president, Chris Pugliese will oversee the delivery

to the Church Street Towers. c/o Dawn Marion, the building representative. Our Green Santa, Mike Galey will be there to promote the festivities and hand out green candy canes.

This project illustrates well how the Green Team works. Someone has an idea and we work together to make it happen for the good of the community. Jan Bardzik with her kindness and concern for others lives on through this project, and we all feel a kind of glow this holiday season.

We Need . . .

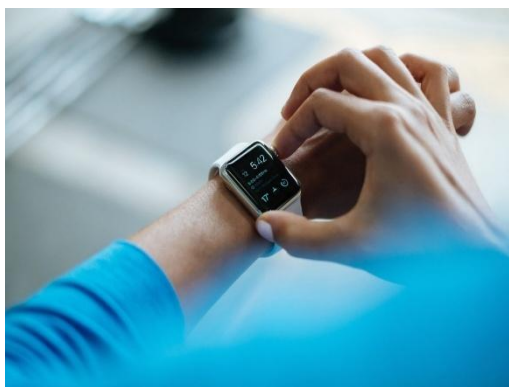
Here's a list of some things the Green Team needs. Can you help?

- ✓ We need **\$171.35** after a kind donation of \$100 by Carolyn Comitta for the Little Library for the Church Street Towers apartment complex for senior citizens.
- ✓ **We need used books**--lots of them for the Church Street Towers Little Library and at the Melton Center--Deliver to the front porch of 409 W Union St.
- ✓ **We need vases** for the baskets for Church St. Towers for sprigs of holly. Drop off at 409 W Union.
- ✓ **We need used adult clothing** for Aiden McFadden's clothing swap--See the flyer in this edition of the newsletter (page 6) for drop-off locations.
- ✓ **We need BASKETS** and hampers and wooden boxes for our auction items. Size medium to large. Please drop off on the front porch at 409 W Union St.
- ✓ **We need CASH.** Please click on the DONATE button on our website and share the green for the greening of West Chester. Go to www.wcgreenteam.com



PFAS Sneak Up on You in Unexpected Places

From EWG Healthy Living



Looking to give a fitness tracker or smartwatch this holiday season? [New University of Notre Dame research](#) reveals a hidden concern: The wristbands on these popular products might expose wearers to the harmful [“forever chemicals”](#) known as PFAS.

Many high-end smartwatch bands are made with fluoroelastomer, a material prized for its strength, flexibility and resistance to sweat – perfect for everyday wear. But products made with this material contain toxic PFAS, known to harm health.

Read the rest of the article here: <https://www.ewg.org/news-insights/news/2024/12/hidden-forever-chemicals-popular-high-end-smartwatch-and-fitness-tracker>

Seeing Stars: Panel Discussion on Dark Skies

Q: What disorients birds and insects, wastes tens of millions of dollars in Pennsylvania alone, disturbs human sleep cycles, damages health, and prevents most Americans from seeing the Milky Way?

A: Excessive night lighting.

An audience of three dozen heard this and much more from "Seeing Stars: Panel Discussion on Dark Skies," sponsored by the West Chester Green Team and the West Chester University Office of Sustainability and held on campus on October 20.

The program started with presentation of WC Green Team's Environmental Leadership Award to Rep. Chris Pielli, who recalled his first view of the "real sky" when on guard duty on a military base in Kansas. "Why don't we see this at home?" he recalls asking himself. Pielli has introduced HB 441, a bill to add state protection for endangered terrestrial invertebrates such as butterflies and pollinating insects. Now, he has also proposed HB 969, to make a start toward reducing light pollution by requiring state agencies (including state universities) to use lighting shielded not to shine above 60 degrees from downward when installing or replacing outdoor lighting. The bill would not exist, Pielli said, without the urging and support of the WC Green Team; he thanked three members of the panel for providing him with essential information.



Street lighting near the discussion site.

Moderator Timothy Lawlor, professor at Penn State University, opened discussion by showing a map of irresponsible lighting in the US which, he said, wastes billions of dollars a year. Each panelist then presented personal perspectives on the topic.

Marc Gagné, professor of Earth and Space Science at WCU, evoked his three years of volunteer teaching in Central Africa, when he observed people's close connection—which we have lost—to the night environment.

Jeff Buler, professor of Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, stressed that light pollution, unfortunately prominent along the I-95 corridor where we are situated, attracts birds to urban areas (which lack the natural resources migrating birds need) and increases fatal collisions with lit-up windows. These factors contribute to the estimated 3 trillion decrease in world bird populations in recent years.

Kate Frederick, a WCU student working with Prof. Gagné, has recorded alarming levels of illumination with her phone's light meter. In Chester County, Valley Forge National Park is excessively lit up, and also the West Chester area, particularly the car dealerships east of town. A map from Globe at Night, a citizen science project that enlists people to count the stars they can see in various locations, shows very limited night sky visibility in much of the eastern US.

Bill McGeeney, who hosts the Light Pollution News podcast, said neighborhoods should set their

own light levels and can be safe without wasting energy or risking their own health. Pittsburgh is good on light and Philly is bad.

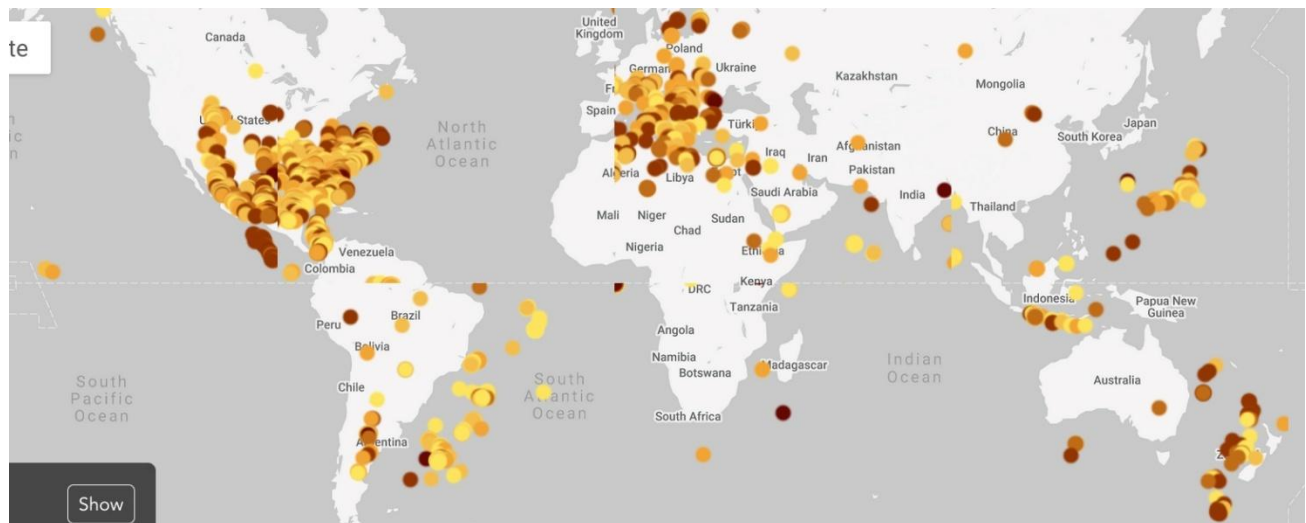
Suzanne Webster, professor of English at Elizabethtown College, has been interested in this issue most of her life, and especially since moving to Downingtown, which in recent years has exacerbated light pollution by bad streetlight decisions.

Other takeaways:

- Light pollution doubles every eight years—not a good track record!
- Overhead lights should be shielded not to exceed about a 20% angle from straight down.
- Blue wavelengths are the most disruptive.
- Flickering LED street lights and contrasting intensities and types of headlights make it difficult for some people to walk and drive at night.
- Some “bright” spots: Radley Run has lights out at 11pm; Phoenixville and East Bradford have good regulations; New Hampshire is helping municipalities reduce unnecessary lighting.
- People need to explain the issue to their elected officials and environmental committees.

As Suzanne Webster summarized: “light pollution prevents people from seeing what it is their right to see.”

The recording of the Dark Skies discussion can be found here: <https://youtu.be/JrRdJTbbvDQ>



Globe Map of light pollution at night

Toward a Plastic-Free Future

By Katie Ulmer, WCU '26 and West Chester Green Team intern



We recycle all that plastic that comes into the house—what's the problem? Solving plastic pollution may not be as simple as putting disposable water bottles into a recycling bin and forgetting about them.

A panel discussion, co-hosted by [West Chester University's Office of Sustainability](#) and the [West Chester Green Team](#) on October 7th, both inspired audience members to take action and acted as a somber reminder of the issues our planet is facing.

Panelists at this event included former West Chester Green Team member Rachel Joy Davis, who gave a comprehensive educational presentation in the beginning. She was a founder of the “Plastic-Free Please” movement, which with the Green Team, students, and former West Chester Mayor Dianne Herrin helped put in place a ban on single-use plastic straws and bags in the Borough. Other panelists were Dee Durham, the co-founder and chair of Plastic Free Delaware; Elliott Arnold, professor of Earth and Space Sciences at West Chester University; and Faran Savitz, a Zero Waste Advocate for PennEnvironment. The discussion was moderated by Green Team member Elizabeth Gombosi.

Plastics are a fossil-fuel-based compound that break down in the sun and get absorbed by other materials they are in contact with, for example, when we cook in non-stick pans. As plastics break down, they don't ever truly disappear; they just break down into smaller and smaller. Research by Professor Arnold has found tiny pieces of plastic, known as microplastics, on practically every surface and waterway.

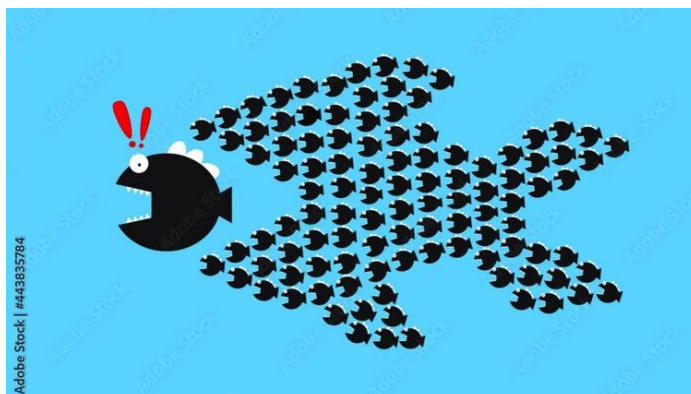
Further research showed that close to 95% of microplastics found in Chester County streams were derived from polyester. What is polyester? Look at the tags of any item in your closet, and surely you will find that the majority are made of plastic, whether that is polyester, acrylic, nylon, or a combination of plastic and non-plastic fibers. Washing and drying these fabrics causes tiny particles to enter the air and wastewater, ultimately putting some of these microplastics into the waterways.

On a larger scale, recycling can seem like an easy and quick way to feel better about buying items that come in plastic packaging. The reality is, however, that many people are not aware of what is even accepted in their municipality, or what happens to the items they place out on the curb. Often, this is a multi-step process that is hindered by contamination. Davis encouraged the audience to visit the local recycling plant and re-read guidelines for items taken in our community.

What else can we do, as individuals, as community members, as voters? Savitz recommends making our voices heard by calling on local officials to enact the change we want to see. Local actions stack up, and although there is not one solution that will fix plastic pollution, actions from

different angles will make big differences. Davis stated, “We don’t need anyone to be one hundred percent perfect, but one hundred people being perfect ten percent of the time makes an impact.” We needn’t feel guilty about occasionally forgetting to bring a reusable container to a restaurant, but if we all try our best, we can make a difference.

Although big corporations are rapidly increasing plastic production and thus pollution, and large systemic changes need to be made, Davis made an inspiring analogy. Big fish, of course, will overpower small fish, but when a group of small fish band together, they can become even bigger and more powerful than the “big” fish. This exemplifies exactly what grassroots organizations are all about: changes driven by local community members, who, together, can take on big challenges.

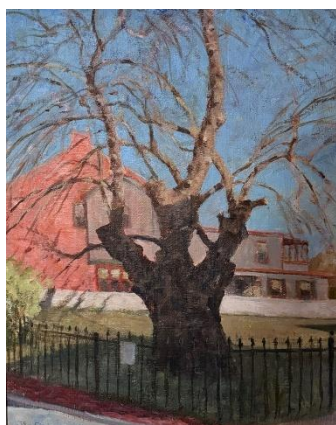


With regard to clothing and microplastics, research is still ongoing as to the long-term effects both on our health and the environment. Arnold urges a fundamental culture change in how we view clothing, trends, and fashion. Our society is built on consumption, which makes it hard to buy less and be happy with what we have. He also suggests thrifting clothing rather than buying new, and hang-drying items rather than machine-drying.

Such individual actions can lead to community action, as shown by all the panelists. Durham, for example, as the mother of small children, wanted to do her part and in 2008 co-founded an organization to do away with single-use plastic bags in Delaware. The effort succeeded over ten years later when Delaware became the fourth state to adopt the ban. Then she and her allies moved on successfully to balloon releases and are now working on Styrofoam in restaurants.

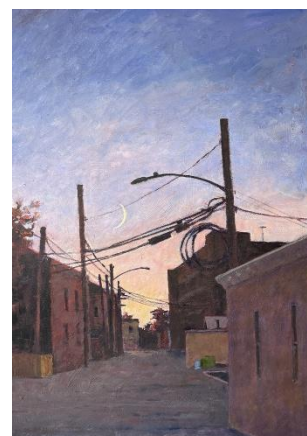
For her original inspiration, Durham credits the late Jane Goodall. The power of one person, the power of many people....

Art Exhibit of Note



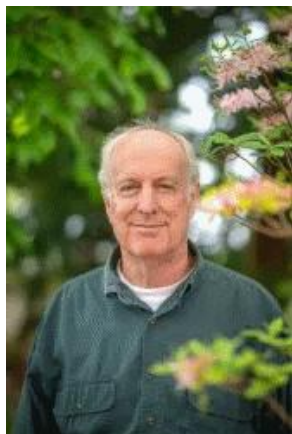
John Suplee, winner of this year’s Philip Jamison Art & Nature Award is currently presenting a one-man show of his paintings at Church Street Gallery, 12 S. Church St., West Chester, now through Nov. 29. Gallery is open 12-4 PM, Wednesday through Saturday.

Come and see *Unexpected West Chester!*



Catching Up with Doug Tallamy

By Margaret Hudgings



With Doug Tallamy, we go way back. The Green Team invited Doug, a professor at the University of Delaware, to speak at WCU, an event cosponsored by West Chester University's Sustainability Committee, and he came to visit in September of 2021, addressing about 200 in person--and the same number online--in Asplundh Concert Hall. The Green Team invited him to dinner after the talk and about 20 from the university and the Green Team sat outside and talked. We learned more about Doug's work and he learned about the Green Team. He congratulated us on our comprehensive approach to environmental issues.

Doug's visit was a resounding success. Since then, he has returned once to address us as a group and several times as a consultant on local gardens. He addressed the Green Team's annual meeting in August of '23 which was held at the CC History Center. People from across the county and from Media too listened to an overview of Green Team work by Courtney Finneran, head of the Green Team's Living Landscape Committee at that time, and then Doug updated us on his work and outlined his plans for the future.

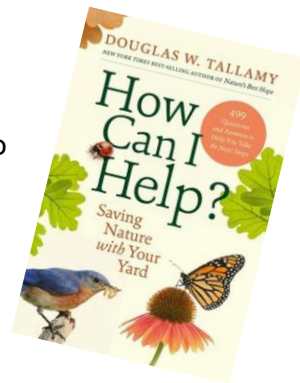
Most recently, this past summer, he advised us that 70% of native plants is sufficient for a healthy environment. Yes, 100% would be ideal from a climate health point of view, but some imports are really beautiful and would be missed.

Doug advocates a step-by-step approach. He suggests the removal of parts of lawns replacing grass with native plants to create more of a meadow like atmosphere. His approach is gradual, not extreme. He is not rigid! He feels the same way about our plant wagons. In fact, he named our wagons Plants on Wheels and said ideally plants should be native, but we might not want to turn down donated plants but rather keep some nonnatives and educate people about the differences. We feature Doug's books and value his wisdom and his friendship.

This year, Doug heads toward retirement and is donating to our auction for the last time. He has traveled and lectured extensively this year as far away as Peru and has released a new book. He seems ready to refocus on securing his legacy which is, of course, changing the planet itself. See <https://homegrounnationalpark.org//> for more on Doug's legacy.

His new book outlines the ways each of us can help with this green revolution. A reviewer on reddit /nolawns, remarked, "Just a shout out for Doug Tallamy 's new book titled *How Can I Help?*. It's somewhat of a how-to but mostly a why-to, with some great information about essential issues relating to biodiversity. He gives short practical answers to 500 questions on the topic."

Thank you, Doug, for everything you have done for the Green Team and for Mother Earth.



Note: Doug has agreed to donate a telephone consultation to our auction. The winner needs to submit a list of questions and photos of the area to be discussed, and Doug will spend a half hour giving suggestions and answering questions. Donor value: \$500. Opening bid will be \$250.