

# **Recycling Education**

**Grant Request** 



The Environmental Awareness Committee, with support from the City and grant resources, is proposing to adopt a Solid Waste Reduction, Diversion and Recycling Master Plan - focusing on education goals for 2022-2023. We anticipate additional longevity with he program with the education provided to all residents of Hudson, Ohio.

Waste reduction is central to the plan. Outreach efforts will be undertaken to educate residents and businesses on waste reduction and recycling.

To reach higher diversion levels, the education plan will be used to reach the goal of a higher participation rate (number of households who recycle as a percent of all those potential households in the City) in the residential recycling curbside collection programs offered by various haulers by 2027. To help achieve this goal the following will be pursued in 2022-2023:

- 1. Develop fresh graphics for marketing materials and PSA's that highlight and promote Waste Reduction
- 2. Develop targeted education campaign with Hudson students
- 3. Transition messaging from "awareness" to specific information about what can be recycled
- 4. Create incentives for targeted competitions through social media
- 5. Increase social media posts to several times per week
- 6. Messaging to evolve to storytelling with focus on public school and EAC efforts and individual household best practices
- 7. Create a new environmental education/awareness sub-site on city website to provide better navigation.
- 8. Develop pledge drive to encourage participation

## **Educational Outreach**

## RESIDENT OUTREACH

**GOAL:** Begin push towards greater participation rate by 2023 focusing on education toward reducing waste and increasing recycling.

#### Proposed actions:

- CONDUCT PLASTIC BAG AWARENESS CAMPAIGN by working with local grocers.
- **INVOLVE RESIDENTS** in events hosted by local non-profits such as Earth Day in April, Compost Awareness Day in May, National Reuse Day in October, America Recycles Day in November, and watershed clean ups through-out the year.
- HOST TWO PUBLIC EVENTS at library highlighting solid waste information
- ENCOURAGE REDUCING WASTE AT SOURCE by including educational programs to encourage residents to purchase products that have recyclable packaging or can be returned to the point of purchase.
- **PROMOTE COMPOSTING** to teach residents how to compost and determine if a composting location could be established.
- PROMOTE SUMMIT REWORKS activities.

### **COMMERCIAL OUTREACH**

GOAL - Develop outreach materials that will enhance current recycling efforts and showcase new efforts for businesses on how waste reduction can benefit them and improve their recycling programs.

- CREATE A TOOLKIT FOR COMMERCIAL RECYCLING PROGRAM development that would complement recycling efforts. It should include step-by-step instructions for setting up a recycling program as well as waste audit instructions, a list of recyclables to target, information on how to request collection service and sample Education and Outreach materials.
- CREATE A TOOLKIT FOR FOOD WASTE REDUCTION AND COMPOSTING including information on food waste reduction, donations, and composting which can assist businesses and institutions that generate substantial quantities of food waste. The toolkit should also educate businesses and institutions about the benefits of making food donations and the liability protection.
- CONTACT EXISTING BUSINESSES that participate in recycling programs with targeted information on waste reduction and diversion goals adopted by the City.
- WORK WITH THE CITY MANAGER AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER to reach out to business community with waste reduction and diversion goals adopted by the City.
- CREATE NEWSPAPER AD thanking participating businesses that recycle.
- DEVELOP SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH to highlight one business each quarter that is doing well on their recycling efforts.



#### **PUBLIC USE RECYCLING**

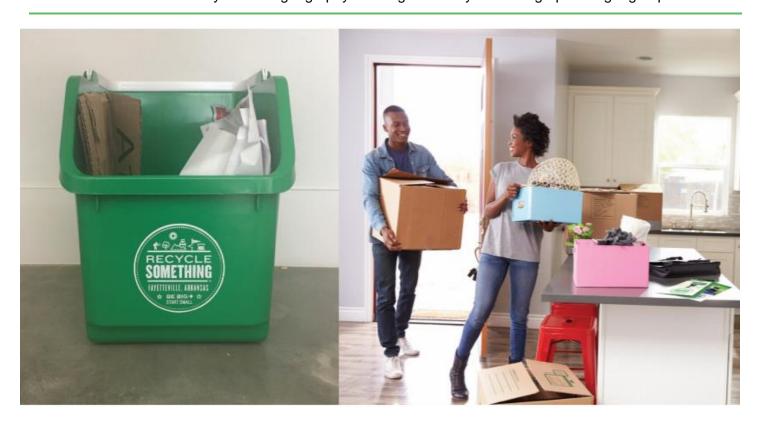
GOAL - Continue efforts to place public space recycling containers in the public parks and utilize the advertising space on the containers for education outreach efforts.

DEVELOP NEW GRAPHICS for the current and future recycling containers placed in public and parks.

#### **MULTI-FAMILY OUTREACH**

GOAL - Continue push for more apartment complexes to begin recycling programs and bring awareness to residents at those complexes of recycling services available to them.

- CONTINUE TO CONTACT owners and managers of large apartment complexes for placement of recycling roll off containers for recycling service.
- RECRUIT VOLUNTEERS to go to existing complexes that recycle and place recycling information on the service on their doors.
- DEVELOP INFORMATION PACKET for complexes under 24 units in size to lay ground work for implementation of recycling service when new collection vehicles and employees are in place.
- DEVELOP AND PLACE RECYCLING DECALS ON DUMPSTERS at complexes with recycling service to
  remind residents of recycling services provided to them and how they can participate. Begin with the
  broader descriptions of your market opportunity. For instance, you are looking at opening a dental office
  either in a suburban location or downtown. Each location would cater to an entirely different market. For
  example, the downtown location would most likely attract more of the busy office worker within a short
  commute compared to a more family based market in the suburban location. Identify the number of
  families or customers in your local geography that might fit into your demographic target group.



## SCHOOLS OUTREACH

GOAL - Share videos highlighting waste reduction and recycling in Hudson Public Schools to inform and create a call to action for Hudson community members.

Share VIDEOS and educational information highlighting waste reduction and recycling in Hudson Public Schools to inform and create a call to action for Hudson community members.

Work with a coordinator for the Hudson Public Schools to work with EAC and education efforts based on curriculum standards. Work on a Waste Reduction / Recycling Project. Educational material will include:

- Reusable silverware + trays in all elementary and middle schools
- Reusable water cups
- Share tables
- Custodial reusable mop heads made of recycled material, minimal chemicals plus controlled dilution, recycled content paper towels. Describe your standard payment terms and the payment methods you accept. Describe the pricing plans (one-time fixed, recurring, mixture, or other) and any impact on cash flow.

Additional educational videos/information:

- Students collecting recycling paper, cardboard, bottles, cans. Estimated 27% of waste generated is recycled
- Technology Department e-waste recycling
- Teracycle recycling glue sticks, juice bags, etc.
- Recycling at High School football and basketball games
- INCREASE PRESENCE ON SOCIAL MEDIA and target students with short video clips and ads on following topics: • Drop-off locations • Food waste • Tips and tricks on reducing waste - catered to students

#### **MARKETING STRATEGY**

GOAL - Develop advertising concepts that move message from awareness of recycling program to fostering behavioral change through action.

- DEVELOP DIGITAL MARKETING CAMPAIGN in collaboration with the Communications team targeting education to residents using social media platforms and digital marketing technologies.
- Marketing Activities: CONTRACT FOR ADVERTISING SERVICES at a variety of outlets depending on budget and approval from administration including:
  - Facebook Outreach
  - Instagram
  - HUB Times
  - Hudson Television

# **Possible Calendar of Events**

Earth Day- Social Media outreach during the week of Earth Day and finishes with the Earth Day Event

Compost Awareness Week - Social Media outreach during the week.

National Reuse Day - Social Media outreach throughout the week will promote reuse programs, instruction on ways for schools to "reuse" and promotion of the ReStore program and local thrift stores.

America Recycles Day - Station the progress tracker in city hall throughout the month of November and publicize and promote on social media.

## **Budget**

COST ITEMS	BUDGET	ACTUAL
RECYCLING EDUCATION CAMPAIGN		
Education Material: Brochures, Design Service for Campaign	\$16,800	
Promotional Items: Give away items ex: reusable bag	\$10,000	
Apartments: Vinyl Decal for Dumpsters (\$10/100)	\$1,000	
Residential		
Reprint Education Folder for new residents signing up for service including info on all haulers QTY 1500	\$1,100	
Prizes for contests	\$450	
Recycling tag update	\$5,000	
Mailing Services for education mailer and magnets	\$8,600	
Envelopes for education mailer and magnet	\$9,500	
Promotional Items for Plastic Bag Awareness Month	\$250	
Composting: Toolkit for Food Waste Reduction	\$3,000	
Business		
Toolkit for Businesses	\$3,000	
Newspaper Ad Listing & Thanking participating businesses recycling	\$400	
Media Campaign		
HUB Times Ads	\$400	
Facebook and Social Media Outreach	\$1,000	
Digital Media Outreach	\$1,000	
Social Media PSAs	\$1,000	
Estimated Total Project Cost	\$62,500	
Estimated Grant Request	\$50,000	
Estimated City Contribution	\$12,500	