



CONCORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY CLIMATE CORNER



WINTER 2024

In December, the Friends of the Library held their annual Holiday Book Sale and this year they made a record-breaking \$18,058! This would not be possible without the high quality donated items they receive from the community so they are thankful for everyone who has donated. The annual book sales are truly community reusing and recycling at its finest!

The Library is currently preparing for our Winter Seed Sow programs. The gallon jugs (*pictured below*) will become mini greenhouses on 1/7 at Verrill Farm and on 1/20 at the Fowler Branch with Lady Fern Farm (see page two for more event details). Thanks to generous donations from Concord Teacakes and Saltbox Kitchen we are well on our way, but we will happily accept your donations of clear gallon jugs at Fowler! This is a great way to grow native plants from seed which promotes biodiversity and helps out local pollinators once the plants are in the ground.



ot sure what to do with your post-holiday waste? Make sure to check the MA [Recyclopedia](#) for tips. Did you know that wreaths, garlands, and any cards or gift bags with glitter should go in the trash and not the recycling/compost?

ZERO WASTE UPDATES

Refuse – for the Main Library’s 150th anniversary celebration and for staff day, the Library refused plasticware when serving food and chose compostable options instead.

Reduce – the Library has offset the equivalent of 83,333 total standard pages of paper consumption since joining the PrintReleaf Exchange in August.

Reuse – the Reference Department is collecting used bubble mailers to reuse when sending items out on interlibrary loan.

Recycle – the Children’s Library has partnered with the CCHS Sunrise Club to collect #6 plastics for the Sunrise Club to use in activities. First up is making shrinky dinks!

Rot – in our time composting with Black Earth, the Library has diverted 132 pounds of trash from landfills.

During a recent all-staff meeting, members of the Green Team ran a compost, recycling, and garbage sorting game to familiarize everyone with local composting and recycling guidelines. As the groups sorted their items, there was a discussion about the items and consultation with local composting and recycling guidelines. The act of sorting these items informed staff about the local guidelines and will allow staff to lead by example in their actions at the Library.

Gaining Ground, a local nonprofit farm here in Concord, will be performing their annual tapping of area sugar maple trees (including those here at the Library!) in February. All syrup they collect will go to hunger relief organizations.

The Library is working to incorporate what the American Library Association calls the “triple bottom line” of sustainability into our programming and policies. That is, to be truly sustainable, organizations must embody practices that are environmentally sound, socially equitable, and economically feasible. Finding the balance between these three areas will lead to the most lasting sustainable changes. To learn more about sustainability in libraries, check out the ALA’s **most recent sustainability briefing**.



WINTER EVENT CALENDAR

SUN, JAN 7 | 1:00 - 4:00 PM

*Winter Seed Sow Workshop
at Verrill Farm*

- demonstrations will be given at 1 PM, 2 PM and 3 PM
- registration required - [click here to sign up](#)

SAT, JAN 20 | 2:00 - 4:30 PM

*Winter Seed Sow Workshop
at Fowler with Lady Fern Farm*

- one demonstration will be given
- registration required - [click here to sign up](#)

STAY TUNED FOR MORE EXCITING
SUSTAINABLE MAKES PROGRAMS
HOSTED BY THE WORKSHOP -
COMING THIS SPRING!

Check out our **brand new page on the Library website** for more information about our sustainability efforts, additional resources, and back issues of this newsletter!



PHOTO GALLERY



Some recent sustainable Workshop fun!
Upcycled CD suncatchers (*top*) and new
biodegradable glitter (*bottom*)



The 2023 CFPL Green Team



CCHS Sunrise Club's number six plastic
collection box in the Children's Library



Staff members participating in the Green
Team's waste sorting activity on staff day