

Hebrew Institute of Riverdale (The Bayit) Green Team in Action Over the Years

1. Spearheaded transition from conventional, chemical to non-toxic, environmentally-friendly cleaning products purchased in bulk to minimize plastic containers;
2. Switched to no-VOC (low toxicity) paints;
3. Recommended safe building materials to building committee;
4. Sponsored yard cleanup and plantings;
5. Achieved full recycling compliance & purchased moveable recycling waste station for events;
6. Supported head of maintenance in completing green maintenance training;
7. Helped initiate CSA (community-supported agriculture cooperative);
8. Initiated food waste collection for city's organics collection program;
9. Supported energy audit to maximize energy efficiency within the building;
10. Hosted a forum on healthy eating choices and food preparation;
11. Conducted worship: "Simple Steps: Protecting Children from Toxins" presented by environmental health pediatrician;
12. Created "Riverdale Faith Communities" banner and took part in the Climate March;
13. Developed informational flyers for a series "Bayit Bytes for Your Health & the Earth" including guidelines for plastics use, green cleaning, sustainable non-toxic personal care products, sustainable yard care strategies, healthy, sustainable food choices and recycling resources;
14. Organized "Green Shabbat";
15. Researched cost-effective sources for compostable paper goods to replace plastic for events;
16. Donated washable tablecloths for celebrations to replace disposable table covers;
17. Organized film plastic recycling resulting in over 500 pounds of plastic being diverted from landfill and earning a free recycled plastic bench;
18. Partnered with Hazon to create pamphlet "Greening your Simcha";
19. Earned Hazon "Green Seal" for 3 years in a row;
20. Contributed weekly green tips for Bayit Bulletin's "Climate Corner";
21. Created series "Post Pesach Plastic Purge Challenge" with weekly tips on reducing use of plastic;
22. Participated in local environmental fairs;
23. Wrote environmental mission statement;
24. Organized household hazardous waste disposal event