

Highland Heights Green Task Force



Fall 2015 Newsletter

Judy Dearden, President

CLEAN WATER FOR ALL 2015 CAMPAIGN -A RECAP OF 2015-

First of all, we would like to express our appreciation to the community for supporting the efforts of the Highland Heights Green Task Force for the past 5 years! The attendance for both the programs and events, as well as our membership numbers, have steadily increased over the years! Also, a big thanks for all the volunteer hours the members and others have given to our efforts. Thank you so much! P.S. New members are always welcome!

The Highland Heights Green Task Force has spent the past nine months examining what our 2015 campaign, **CLEAN WATER 4 ALL**, is all about. We have had numerous speakers share with us the cause and effect of our habits and how they are affecting our watershed, and ultimately us. We learned about safer, more natural alternatives to the toxic man-made chemicals in our personal care and cleaning products. Hopefully, many of us learned to practice better garden and lawn maintenance habits which will reduce the fertilizer and pesticide run-off into the sewer, creeks and streams which enter Lake Erie, one of the major causes of the environmentally damaging algae blooms. We have shared what we have learned at our various community outreach tables located at the Hillcrest Hospital, Gates Mills Environmental Education Center and the Highland Hts. Community Day.

We recently partnered with the Mayfield High School Environmental Club, the North Chagrin Reservation, and the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District, for the second year in a row, to build a boat out of recycled materials for the **GREAT LAKE ERIE BOAT FLOAT**. The event is held to raise awareness of the pollution in our waters from plastics. Unfortunately, due to unfavorable weather conditions, the boats did not meet the water; however, a fun time was had by all participants. Although our boat, "THE MEAN GREEN CLEANING MACHINE" did not win, as the saying goes...there is always next year!

Our fourth annual **HHGTF GAZEBO ZERO WASTE POTLUCK DINNER and 50/50 RAFFLE** was once again a wonderful success. The gazebo was packed with great company and delicious food. Thank you to everyone who joined us for a fun evening!

As a reminder, the **LITTLE FREE LIBRARY** located in front of the entrance to the Community Pool is getting a lot of activity. As such, it is often in need of restocking. If you have any books, especially children's books, that you would like to donate, please feel free to place them in the library box. Thanks!

***COME SHOP WITH US!! at the Second Annual GREEN VENDORS -
HOLIDAY GIFT SALE***

**Saturday, Nov. 7 - 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Highland Hts. Community
Center**

A select number of green vendors are coming together to offer a unique selection of green holiday gifts. We invite you to shop with us for safer and environmentally friendly alternatives to mass produced products for your holiday gift giving. Invite a friend (or two) to come shopping with you!

Thank you to all for continuing to be interested in our shared environment and how to keep it and ourselves healthy.

Please visit www.highlandhtsgreen.com, or email hhgreentaskforce@yahoo.com or call Judy Dearden @ 440-646-9820 for more information.