

Pequannock, July 24, 2022

Recycling Earns Bench For Pequannock Community Garden

A collaborative recycling effort involving Pequannock's Environmental Commission, Library, and Stop & Shop has garnered a new bench donated to the Township's Community Garden. Under a program sponsored by the Trex Company, groups that collect 500 pounds of plastic shopping bags and similar plastic film can earn a Trex bench made of recycled plastic.

Residents deposit their donations in the Library vestibule, Library staff alert Environmental Commission staff when the bin is full, Environmental Commission staff weigh and take the material to the Stop & Shop, whose staff then add the material to their commercial plastic-bag recycling program. When the 500-



Recycled Plastic Bench at Community Garden

pound threshold is attained, a Liaison contacts the Trex Company, which then sends the bench at no cost. The program leverages public-private partnerships to encourage residential recycling that both reduces the amount of plastic entering our waste stream and puts the material to good use. Accepted materials are clean and dry HDPE (Type 2), LDPE and LLDPE (type 4) plastics, which include grocery/bread/newspaper/Ziploc bags, plastic mailers, bubble wrap/air pillows, dry-cleaning bags, mattress/pallet wraps, and wraps for paper towels/toilet paper bundles. Rigid and crinkly plastic types, including chip bags and frozen food bags, are not the correct type of plastic and are not acceptable. To learn more about the program and the materials that it accepts, please see

<https://recycle.trex.com/view/educate#materials1>

-Pequannock Environmental Commission