

GROW Fourth Quarter Report 2024

October – December

Newsletter Articles:

- October 2024 – Composting and the Westchester 2024 Pumpkin Smash by Kari Roberg and Leave the Leaves by LeeAnn Kruszynski
- November 2024 – Eating a Healthy Diet Is Good for You and the Environment by Walt Wojcik
- December 2024 – Use of Plastics: the Pros and Cons by Walt Wojcik

Commissioner Changes: None

Accomplishments/Events:

- GROW sponsored the PUMPKIN SMASH again this year on November 2nd, with collection locations at Westchester Community Church & Mayfair Recreation Center. 3400 pounds were collected for composting this year. The 2025 Smash is planned for November 8th.
- GROW sponsored a TREE WALK which was well attended. This event will be evaluated for future iterations.
- - “Sustainable Purchasing Statement” for the village to use on Purchase Orders and RFP’s has been created & is under consideration in, creation of the village’s new processes.

- **GROW participated in Westchester’s Food Pantry Christmas Wonderland / Artisan Fair.** Walt Wojcik and Lee Kaufman provided information on GROW’s mission, clean air, composting, electric vehicles and use of a carbon footprint calculator. About 30 – 40 people dropped by table.

- **Recipes of the Month:** Published in Village Newspaper.

Oct: Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Oatmeal Bars

Nov: Spinach and Leek Frittata

Dec Kale and Brussel sprout salad

- **GREEN FACTS** printed in monthly Westchester newspaper **begun** in November 2024

Policy and Infrastructure:

- Climate Action Plan: Evaluation of climate action plan by the Village continues.

The Commission has formed sub committees, to review the GRC document in sections, and make recommendations for action that will produce “Easy Team Wins.”

Events in progress:

- **Movie Night** showing “Being the Change” documentary (60 min) is scheduled for Jan 23, 2025, a Thursday, at 6 pm in Village Board Room

- West Cook Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, will be meeting on March 5 at 10:30 am in the Berkeley Public Library (1637 Taft Avenue). Planning finalized in 2025. In 2026, implementation would begin based on resources and grants.