

Used Bike Drive a Great Success—Village Kids Lead the Way!



April 16-17, 2021

This past weekend, the green in front of the Village Hall looked like a bike field hospital. Bicycles of all sizes and description, from vintage Schwinn's to modern Treks, were splayed across the lawn being prepped for delivery to Bikes for the World—an NGO that collects used bikes for refurbishing and shipment to needy communities in the developing world. Kids with bike wrenches and WD-40 were on the front lines leading the charge. Pedals had to be removed, handle bars inverted and aligned and seats lowered to optimize stacking and loading. Village Millennials recruited to help handle the volume of bikes flooding in, worked alongside their younger cohorts, all under the watchful eye of Ollie Davidson, E&E Committee member and master of bike mechanics.





The idea to pilot a youth-led activity with the Village’s Environment and Energy Committee this spring was the brainchild of Emily Lawson Amis and her three children, Jacqueline (10), Charlotte (9) and James (9), with an assist from Henry Chew (9). Ellen Sands, Director of Municipal Operations for the Village, made the connection with Bikes for the World for a pilot activity to collect outgrown sports equipment that could be recycled and diverted from landfills. She was also on site over the weekend to lend a hand and support the effort.

The drive was a huge success—67 bikes donated by Village residents and processed for collection over the two-day event! Clearly this pilot is just the beginning –there is lots of scope to expand this effort to include other equipment that can be repurposed or restored for re-use. As we get ready to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day on Thursday, it is reassuring to see the next generation with their energy and ideas leading the way.

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Village Environment and Energy Committee