

## MNL Green Initiative 2024



The library by its very nature is a major recycler. Think about it - books, and videos out and books and videos in; newspapers and magazines, all from a single purchase used by many.

The summer reading program for 2024 is Read, Renew, Repeat, a program themed to conservation. Conservation as a movement focuses on protecting species from extinction, maintaining, and restoring habitats, enhancing ecosystem services, and protecting biological diversity. As a community and individuals, we contribute to the success (and failures) of conservation. The staff just received a presentation by the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resource Recovery Authority that manages trash and recycling in the region. They also performed an audit after the presentation, and they reported that our building-wide recycling and waste reduction program is very efficient. Here are some other good things we are doing or have planned:

## Education:

Adult Home Organization including where to direct goods locally for reuse. Kids programs on Composting and Recycling this summer. Kids Nature programs describing conservation efforts. Adult Gardening series including regenerative gardening presentations. Growing Your Garden and a Fairer Food System Series.

## Operations:

Recycling audit to recommend improvements.

Water bottle filler to discourage single plastic use.

Reuse of scrap copy paper for notepads.

Re-lamp of library with efficient lighting.

Zoom meetings - no paper packets prepared!

Energy audit to recommend options for energy savings and efficiency improvements.

Environmentally safe cleaners.

## Events:

Friends Annual Fair - sale of used books and items for re-use Friends Annual - Book Sale and Art Sale - donated good used items for reuse.

