



Warwickshire Climate Change Community Newsletter

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/climatechangepartnership

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Green Christmas

Yes its that time of year again, so this year I thought I would encourage you to make your own Christmas tree decorations, which is both green and fun.

Microwave Salt Dough Ornaments

Recipe

- 4 cups of flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1-11/2 cups of hot water
- Holiday cookie cutters
- Decorations – glitter, paint. Beads etc

Instructions

1. prepare dough by mixing all of the above ingredients .
2. Roll out dough and using Christmas cookie cutters cut a variety of shapes e.g. Christmas trees, snowmen and stars. Use a toothpick to create a hole for hanging, being sure to make the hole a little larger than required as they tend to close when baking.
3. Using a microwave safe plate, microwave a plate of your decorations for 1 to 4 minutes, increasing the time by 1 minute increments and keeping a close eye on the microwave as the ornaments bake. Let ornaments cool completely before decorating.
4. Using paints and glitters decorate your new Christmas tree decorations. Leave to dry and decorate tree.



MERRY CHRISTMAS



Future Friendly Awards

Are looking at celebrating and rewarding people who have made a real difference whether it is by saving energy, saving water, or through reducing waste. Maybe you've inspired others to do their bit, or have simply led by example, no matter what, they want to hear from you.

Entrants could be an individual or group who have benefited their community, or a family that is living more sustainably or encouraging others to do so. They are looking for people that have made positive changes to their everyday lives, or reached out to others to do the same.

All they need is 500 words that describe what you have done so far.

The future Friendly Awards has two categories this year: the Community Award and the Family Award. The Community Award winner will receive a bursary worth £10,000 to further their good work, while the Family Award winner will win an energy and environment home makeover, also worth £10,000.

For each award, the judging panel will put together a shortlist of five entrants. Each short listed entry will then have an inspirational film made showcasing their work which will be hosted on the Future Friendly website and the public will vote for the winner.

Last date for receipt of entries is midnight 31/12/2009

For more info go to www.futurefriendly.co.uk/awards/

Funding



Church and Community fund – is designed to strengthen the Church of England’s relationship with local communities. Up to £10,000 is available to fund schemes with scope for innovation. It can support both capital and revenue projects, as well as feasibility studies or professional fees. For more information go to www.churchandcommunity.org.uk

Community News



- Transition Stratford is organising a coach to “The Wave – come together to stop with climate change” which aims to be the biggest family orientated demonstration in history, will walk through London to demonstrate support for a safe climate future for all. The coach will be leaving from the centre of Stratford at 8am on the 15th December and calling at Shipston on Stour before proceeding to London. The coach will return via Shipston, arriving at Stratford at approximately 7pm. The cost will be £10 per person (Children under 5 go free). The theme is bring and wear blue, the idea is to make a human wave. To book a place email transition@nettlesoup.co.uk
- On Wednesday the 25th November Kenilworth Initiative for Climate Change presented a showing of the Age of Stupid at St. John’s Primary school, Kenilworth.
- Transition Shipston are looking at Bee Keeping in the community. As many people are aware the Uk honey bee population is in decline, so in partnership with Shipston beekeepers and in accord with the Transition Shipston aims to encourage and foster the successful growing of food crops by local communities for local consumption, the group is seeking funding to set up an apiary of some six bee hives as training resources and to train/support rural communities in keeping bees for pollination. As a bonus the group is hoping for honey to.
- Getting Kineton Growing is a new initiative which aims to encourage the local community to grow more of it’s own food. For more information about growing, if you want to suggest a location for a demonstration plot or if you feel you offer your time and support contact caroline@lightcycles.co.uk
- The Renewable Energy Club which aims to give mutual support and encourage others to become more knowledgeable, gain confidence and invest in their own on site generation has created a group web site available at www.renewable-energy-club.org.uk/home
- Transition Shipston is compiling a local food directory and are looking for Local suppliers, Producers Growers large and small, as well as Pubs, Restaurants, Hotels & B&Bs. Who provide local, ethically sourced foods that are available to the public. There is no charge to be included in the directory which will be distributed to local households when it is launched in the spring.
- Stratford Methodist Church gets a second Eco Congregation award. The church over the last few years has been busy being green, with regular a green corner columns in the church newsletter, two annual Sunday services on environmental issues, recycling, energy consumption monitoring and much more. To find out more please visit www.stratfordmethodist.org.uk

Have your say



This is your newsletter and your opportunity to publicise any events you may be holding, and let other groups know what you are currently up to share your experiences. What do you want to see in future editions?

Please send all comments or enquiries about this newsletter and suggestions, for news items, case studies, details of events etc to

emmaclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk

Tip Of The Month



Curtains are good heat insulators, especially if lined with thick materials such as brushed cotton. They can provide shading from direct sunlight during hot summer days and keep heat in during cold winter days and evenings. Draw curtains over windows at night, as they provide insulation and help keep the heat in the room.