



Ecological Picnic in Gliwice

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Introduction

June 10, 2017 In Gliwice, where the event was open to the public, while encouraging participants to a greener lifestyle. We showed that ecological activities are not difficult, we can joy with ecology and showed that more eco-friendly lifestyle with benefits for community and environment. We put much attention to the issue of ecology at home - reducing the amount of waste, reusing things, but also resource management and recycling. We showed that pro-ecological action can be fun and bring joy to families. The organizers of the event were: the Green Foundation, the Association of Animators for All-Young Development and the Polish Ecological Club.



Workshops kitchen-waste free and 0 waste

During the Gliwice Ecological Picnic there was a workshop of kitchen-waste free and 0 waste, during which the participants saw how much of the widely recognized wasteful waste disposal can be managed for the benefit of our wallets and the environment. We have tried to show the local dimension of food respect - such as supporting local farmers, recycling money, reducing CO2 emissions from long distance transport restrictions, and sustainable, extensive agricultural production without fertilizers and pesticides. We have also paid a great deal of attention to the global ethical aspect - too many people in the world suffer from hunger, so societies with a much higher standard of living should work towards reducing and eliminating food waste and over-consumption of solidarity. During the





workshops we showed how to be ecologically smart - using energy in the home, in a way that brings us a measurable, economic effect, showing how to sort waste without occupying a large area in the kitchen, we argued that before we throw away a thing we should consider who can be It's handy - and so clothing can be delivered to the containers in the city, some of which are sold, and the resources thus obtained are supporting foundation that helps children from the poor community. More and more initiatives are taking place in Gliwice to exchange used but useful things by private persons. An interesting initiative in Gliwice is the exchange of clothes carried out by selected libraries. Prior to entering the hangers were set to tell you that you can hang clothes that we no longer need, or take away for free, what hangs on the hanger. Another interesting initiative are book fairs and points in the city, where you can take or leave books, fairs for children's toys, "babka exchange of clothes." There is no repair and replacement point in the city yet, but the PKE has worked with GCOP, whose representatives have good contact with officials and the concept of a social cooperative whose activity will be related to the repair of household appliances and consumer electronics is increasingly real. However, there is a need to cooperate with the County Labor Office, which can finance the costs of training and employment. In the city there are regular collection of used household appliances and electronics and the schedule of collection is available on the website of the City Hall: <http://bip.gliwice.eu/strona=10551>

Art workshops



As part of the picnic, weaving wicker paper workshops, building eco-friendly houses models with a rational use of energy at home and gathering tools from everyday objects that would hit rubbish were held. This workshop was aimed mainly at the youngest participants, although adults were eager to participate. The aim of all three workshops was to show that



you can spend your time and arrange time for your children in a constructive and creative way, using cheap recycled materials. Workshops also had a high educational value for the youngest - influencing the formation of positive habits - reuse of materials and equipment prior to disposal, segregation of waste and attention to the recycling of other resources – eg. use of rainwater to water plants. During the wicker paper workshop, the topic of efficient paper use was discussed at home and in the office. Participants were encouraged to make the most of paper - for example, double-sided printing, one-sided printing of different sizes for home and office use. A simple and clever way to reduce paper consumption is, for example, using old calendars for making notes or collecting rules or business cards, using scrap paper to make shopping lists, tasks, etc. instead of buying small postcards in a paper store. During workshops on building models of recycled houses, talked about both architecture and energy-efficient buildings, but also the rational use of energy at home. In addition to the more obvious behavioral aspects of the society - such as turning off stand-by devices or replacing traditional bulbs with LED lighting, we also talked about energy classes in household appliances, using heat and cold residue in the kitchen. At the children's learning workshop, but also surprisingly enough, the adults were eager to play on simple pieces of wood, old cutlery and kitchen utensils. Artistic workshops using recycled materials encouraged the creative organization of free time for children and inspire the pro-ecological activities.

Gardening workshop



During the gardening workshop the participants were able to see that everyone could have their own herbal garden, whether indoors, in a block or in a townhouse. It turns out that we can grow plants even in a small balcony space and even windows. It is important to select



the right plant species and – what is not obvious for everyone - provide plants with sunlight, adequate watering and fertilization. The host pointed out the ecological ways of plant care - including the preparation and proper use of compost and plant protection preparations. We say NO! for pesticides and artificial fertilizers. Composting is a great way to reduce the amount of waste produced and to gain valuable nutrients for plants. Of course, the easiest is when we live in a house with a garden and we can set up a composter in it, but the composters are also available on the balcony and even on the market. You can also make such a composter yourself using recycled materials. Employment to help earthworms will give you full compost value in less time. Participants of the workshop received a seedlings of kale for self-fertilization, and although probably not everyone after the workshop established his own garden or built a composter, he would surely know what can and should not be thrown into a container waste for green and biodegradable , as in both Gliwice, Tychy and other cities in Silesian Agglomeration are collecting waste that goes to the composting plant.

City game



The task of the participants was to find, located in various parts of the city, checkpoints, where questions and tasks related to ecology were waiting. And although the weather for the time of city play was not perfect - it was raining heavily - it did not bother the previously reported teams. Game participants received prizes - eco-friendly gadgets, such as manual torches, staples without the need for metal staples or battery-shaped USB flashes to properly recycle used batteries.

A taste stand combined with a charity fundraiser for the hospice



During the event participants were given the opportunity to try vegetarian dishes prepared by the members of the TOMATA food cooperative from Gliwice and to give financial support to the hospice in Gliwice. Food co-operatives are an increasingly well-known and well-liked way of organizing a sustainable food supply - environmentally friendly and human. Thanks to supplies from the farmer and his own members for the benefit of the cooperative, the price of both certified organic and conventional food is much more affordable than in specialized stores. In co-operation, however, it is not just about supplying food at lower prices; the cooperative is the people who understand and support the idea of sustainable food production and distribution.

Information education and promotional stand



During the event there was an informational-educational and promotional stand of the Polish Ecological Club, the Green Foundation and the Association of All-Youth Development, where each organization presented its activities and disseminated free educational materials. At the Polish Club's booth, materials were available on the reduction of home waste, recycling, and materials from the training seminar titled " "Let's be ready for 2020 - how to increase recycling in the municipality" held in March in Tychy. In addition to materials related to waste, leaflets and brochures on organic farming, local products, pesticides, water protection and Nature 2000 were available. The stand allowed visitors to know what NGOs are and what they do.

Summary

The Gliwice Ecological Picnic and the stand and workshops, in addition to their educational dimension, were meant to show that eco-friendly activities are simple and often pleasant, and bring measurable social and economic benefits to the entire community as well as to households and individual people. The picnic was organized in co-operation with other organizations and the Gliwice NGO Center, an agency of the Gliwice City Hall, so we can talk about the impact of the event on both residents, non-governmental organizations and local government. This year's event was held for the first time, but its positive reception by the residents prompts the organization of future editions.



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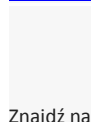
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