



# City of Gaithersburg's First Fix It Fair

MWCOG Recycling Committee

December 7, 2023



# Agenda

- ▶ Fix-it Fair Background
- ▶ Event Timeline
- ▶ Volunteer Engagement
- ▶ Fix-It Fair
- ▶ Opportunities for Improvement

# Event Overview



[GBurg.MD/FixIt23](http://GBurg.MD/FixIt23)

# Planning Timeline

8 Months from Planning to Execution

- ▶ January 2022 - Call for Fixers Press Release
- ▶ March 2022 - Fixer Deadline
- ▶ March 2022 - Fixer Meet and Greet
- ▶ April - Registration Opens
- ▶ April 20 - Registration Closed



# Volunteer Engagement

- ▶ EAC Workgroup
- ▶ Fixer Coordination
  - ▶ Press Release
  - ▶ E-Newsletter
  - ▶ School/Trade Program
  - ▶ Local Business
- ▶ Repair Coordination
  - ▶ Press release
  - ▶ Social Media
  - ▶ Day of navigational signe



# 2022 Fix-It Fair



# 2022 Fix-it Fair



# 2022 Total Budget

- ▶ Staff Time - A LOT (approximately 85 hours)
- ▶ Less than 1,100.00

<b>Total</b>	<b>1,100</b>
Lunch for Volunteers	175
Breakfast	50
Lamp Repairs Supplies	55
Signs for Event (future use)	820



# Lessons Learned - 2022

- ▶ Factoring in Lunch break times for Volunteers
- ▶ More specific definition of items -
- ▶ Clearer about what we accept/what is available for appointment time
- ▶ Automated response system
- ▶ Small appliance repair fixers
  - ▶ Not to include electronics
  - ▶ Not to include gas-powered item
- ▶ Adjusting time allocation/limit time for repairs
- ▶ Fixer stipends



**City of Gaithersburg Fix- It Fair**  
Saturday, June 3, 2023 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Casey Community Center  
[810 South Frederick Avenue](#)  
[Gaithersburg, MD 20877](#)

This is a free event, space is limited.  
Appointments are between 10:00am and 1:00pm.  
1:00pm - 2:00pm reserved for walk-ins.  
Brought to you by the [Environmental Affairs Committee](#)

# Event Planning 2023 Fix-it Fair

- ▶ Event Planning Team - 1 City employee, 4 volunteers
  - ▶ Total Six Planning Meetings
- ▶ 98% of Appointments booked within 2 weeks (41 out of 42 slots)

# 2023 Fix-It Fair



5 fix areas: Small Appliances, Lamps, Textiles, Jewelry, PC/Laptop Diagnosis.

Knife Sharpening  
(CANCELLED)

Event staffing - 1 City employee, 3 volunteers

# 2023 Fix-It Fair



37 Attendees (34 last year)

41% of attendees were walk-ins/waitlisted

Attendees mostly from Gaithersburg, some from surrounding jurisdictions (Rockville, Montgomery Village, Germantown, Bethesda, Kensington, North Potomac)

# 2023 Fix-It Fair

Over 98% problem diagnosis  
66% successful fixed rate

Harder issues to fix - some  
electronics, jewelry

Notable fixes include an  
antique clock, outdoor  
heating lamp, child car



# 2023 Fix-it Fair Numbers

Fix Area	Allotted time (min)	Average time (min)
Lamps	15	20
Small Appliances	30	22
Textiles	20	45
Jewelry	20	19
PC/Laptop Diagnosis	30	20

Fix Area	Diagnosis Rate	Fix Rate
Lamps	91	91
Small Appliances	100	56
Textiles	100	100
Jewelry - new	100	57
PC/Laptop Diagnosis	100	33

# 2023 Total Budget

- ▶ About half the staff time from 2022 event - (approximately 45 hours)
- ▶ About half the cost from 2022 event - (\$640)

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$640</b>
Lunch for Volunteers	\$185
Breakfast	\$50
Lamp Repairs Supplies	\$55
Signs for Event	\$0
Fixer stipends	\$350

# Fix-It Fair Champions

Thanks to the Organizing Committee Volunteers - Adam Young, Alan Black, Christine Chin Choy, Pat Cuff, Tim Foresman, Zainab Abbas





# Key Takeaways

- ▶ Setting up a Roadmap for Success
- ▶ Creating Community
- ▶ Empowering A More Sustainable Lifestyle
- ▶ Long-term Event Transferability



# Feedback/Comments/Questions

