



# Indiana County Sustainable Economic Development Task Force Monthly Newsletter



## “BAG IT” Film Leaves Attendees Rethinking Daily Plastic Usage

Last Saturday evening (Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>), the Indiana County LWV Environmental Committee hosted a showing of the drama/comedy “Bag It”, by Suzan Beraza, at the Philly Street Playhouse. This funny yet jaw dropping documentary showed the realities of reckless plastic consumption, and covered everything from the impact plastic use has had on our world, to the negative affects chemicals in plastic have on child development.

At the end of the film, community members shared the efforts they make to reduce and manage plastic waste. One notable research project, conducted by IUP students Margret Collings and Kayla Dawson, provided insight on local attitudes towards recycling and plastic-less living options. Another plastic research project, conducted by our former Sustainability Assistant Gabriella Millette and Professor Dr. Katie Farnsworth, involved collecting and cataloging trash found in and along Marsh Run.

In addition to these two research projects, Silas Schiera from Boy Scout Troop 1011 completed his mission to collect 500lbs of plastic bags in a matter of a few months. These bags will be sent to Trex, a composite decking company, in exchange for a park bench (covered in our July Issue).

## Solar Co-Op Celebration: Discussions on 2nd Co-Op

The Indiana County Solar Co-Op celebrated the end of its first, and highly successful, run on Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>. Henry McKay, Pennsylvania Program Manager at Solar United Neighbors, presented the final membership numbers of the Co-Op, confirming that the Indiana County Co-Op remains the largest in the state. Interest in the Solar Co-Op and its financial benefits continues to grow, sparking discussions about a second round of solar installations.



## Trailhead/ “Mode Transfer Station” for Hoodlebug Extension Complete!

The Indiana community gathered to celebrate the soft-opening of the Hoodlebug Trail Extension on Friday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>. The party, consisting of elected officials, community leaders, and bike enthusiasts, gathered around the newly constructed Trail-head for the Hoodlebug Extension/ Indiana Multi-modal Corridor. The trailhead features a bike repair station (complete with tools and air pump), sheltered bike racks, solar powered lighting, and new signage.

*Right: Community members watch as a bike owner tries out the new repair station.*



For more information, visit:  
[SustainableIndianaCounty.org](http://SustainableIndianaCounty.org)



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