

LINDSAY ANDERSON
MINNESOTA GREENCORPS MEMBER

Waste Reduction and Recycling Education

City of Hastings

September 2019 – August 2020

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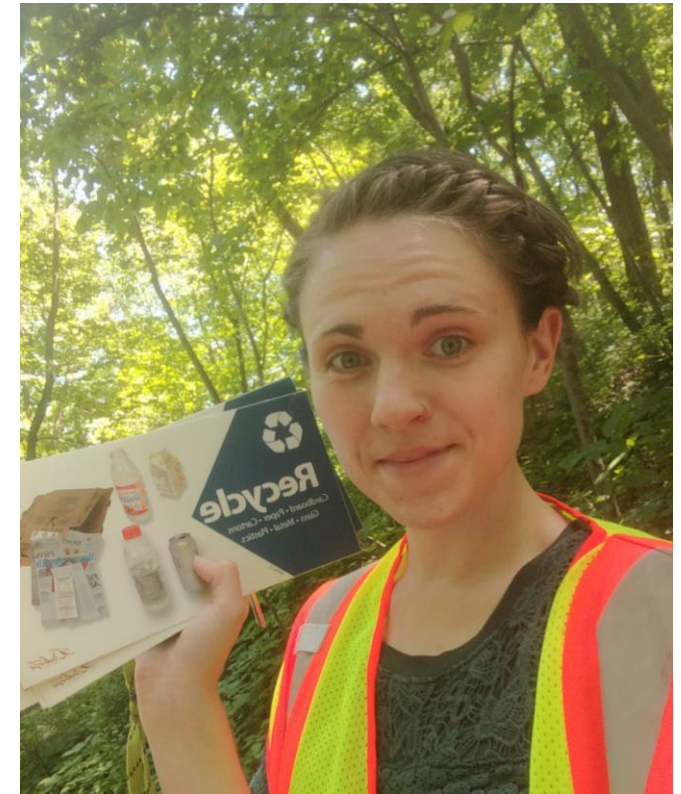
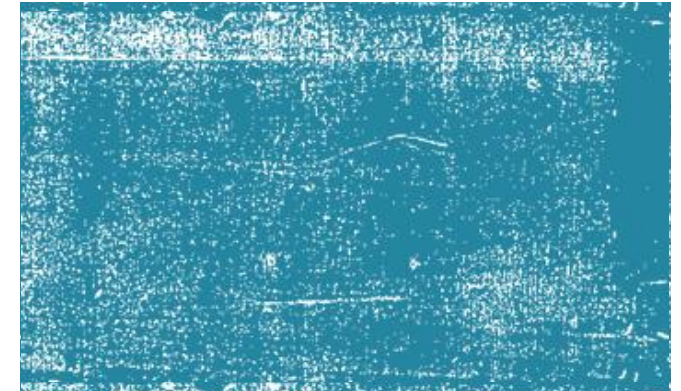
WHAT IS MINNESOTA GREENCORPS?

- AmeriCorps program focused Environmental Service in communities and professional development for members
- Waste Reduction, Air Pollutant Reduction, Green Infrastructure, Community Outreach
- 200 applicants and 42 positions throughout MN
- Hastings applied to be a host site – Paige Marschall applied and interviewed for this.
- 11 month service project funded by AmeriCorps and facilitated by MPCA



RECYCLING TASKS

- Assessing and updating all trash and recycling bins in all city parks to be in compliance with Ordinance 110.
- Attending Dakota County Waste Abatement meetings.
- Attending local and statewide recycling managers meeting and conferences.
- Serving on the state recycling markets development committee.
- Providing city staff with recycling education through waste monitoring, newsletters, and learning workshops.



COMMUNITY PROJECTS



Waste Diversion Events/ Activities

- Organics at Pumpkin Toss
- Organics at City Staff Events
- Parks Recycling Practices to comply with Ord. 110 – recently passed in the County
- Attending County and State Waste Management meetings and conferences
- Virtual Fix –It Clinic
- Waste Assessments in City Buildings
- Upkeep and Assessment of Organics Drop Site

Educational Communications

- Waste Busters Series with HCTV
- Community In-Depth Interviews with KDWA
- Green Living Workshops at Library
- Lunch and Learns with City Staff
- Presenting to/with local groups and organizations
- Webinars on Waste Reduction Topics
- Interviews with Star Gazette and HCTV



LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

- **Hastings Family Service** – Offered advice on Green Team, reused t-shirt projects.
- **Carpenter Nature Center** – Planned on speaking at Bird Day, volunteering with compost pile
- **Hastings Environmental Protectors** – Spoke at meeting and collaborated for Rivertown Days recycling efforts
- **Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce** – Planned for recycling efforts at RTD
- **Tilden Community Education** – Taught recycling game at Halloween party, lead an kids pollinator education day
- **Hastings YMCA** – Tabled about a Hastings Food Waste Challenge
- **Spiral Foods Co-op** – Hastings Food Waste Challenge, presented on meal prepping together
- **KDWA** – Quarterly interviews on Community In-Depth on sustainability issues
- **HCTV** – Waste Busters recycling comedy series, organics drop site news story
- **Dakota County** – Presented waste reduction webinars, outreach for food waste and organics site, recycling labeling in Dakota Co schools, attended waste abatement meetings and trainings, fix-it clinic coordination, planned on hosting a Clothing Swap



OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Residents want to become more sustainable
- Local groups would benefit from a contact point.
- Dakota County Ordinance 110
- In Dakota County, there are 5 positions within cities devoted recycling and other sustainability efforts. In Ramsey county there are 11 (including 4 in Saint Paul.) Hennepin County has 21 (including 7 in Minneapolis.)
- I'd recommend when feasible, adding an environmental specialist position to work on recycling, energy, outreach, and sustainability efforts for the city.





WHAT'S NEXT

- My service ends in Hastings on August 18th.
- I have grown to love this community and am planning on visiting regularly, continuing to volunteer, and staying in touch!
- I'm looking for the next step in my career focused on the environment, sustainability and educational outreach.

THANK YOU!

Questions?

Reach me at landerson@hastingsmn.gov

