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Dear neighbors,

I'm excited to announce the official launch of the Pelham Residential Food Scrap Recycling Program! This is a partnership between both villages and Westchester County, so starting next week, all Pelham residents can bring food scraps to the Food Scrap Drop-Off site located in Parking Lot 7 (north of the Village of Pelham DPW yard, behind Rockwells - enter from Sparks Avenue). All are welcome to join us for the official kickoff of the site on Saturday, April 10th at 11:00am. We will be joined by Westchester County Executive George Latimer, New York State Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, leadership from both villages and our most prestigious guests: the volunteers who made this possible.

This program is one that many residents have wanted for years. Composting food scraps is a win-win. It reduces the amount of trash we produce and transforms food waste into a resource that's beneficial to the environment. It results in cleaner soil, water and air. But even though we've wanted to launch this site for quite some time, this service would not be possible without the incredible support of the Environmental Coalition of the Pelhams (EcoPel). EcoPel awarded the Village a grant this year that covers all the startup costs related to the site. Alongside their financial support, the volunteers on the Sustainability Advisory Board and the Climate Smart Communities Task Force have spent months working closely with Deputy Village Clerk Cara Farrell and Trustee Hanan Kamal Eldahry. They've planned the site, sold starter kits, created the necessary signage and developed educational and promotional materials to make sure the site would be successful. Please join me in thanking them for their amazing leadership and commitment to our community.

Of course, the best way to thank them is to start using the site! While it's not required, we strongly encourage all participants to purchase a "starter kit," available for \$21/kit. The starter kits include a countertop pail, a transportation bin and a roll of compostable bags. Village of Pelham residents can sign up for a kit by sending an email to foodscraps@pelhamgov.com and Village of Pelham Manor residents can sign up by emailing foodscraps@pelhammanor.org.

Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard to bring us to this point. What a great way to welcome the warmer weather!

Best,
Chance

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