

**Environment Committee Meeting Invitation**  
**Fix It! Organizing a Community Repair Café**  
May 20, 2025

Dear Environment and Energy Committee,

Please join us at our upcoming meeting:

**Environment Committee Meeting Details**

**Topic:** Fix It! Organizing a Community Repair Café

**Date:** Tuesday, May 20

**Time:** 9:30-11 a.m.

**Register:** Please register in advance for the Zoom meeting with the link that was sent to Committee members.

Most of us throw away broken household items and replace them with new items. What about fixing broken things? Keeping valuable items in service reduces waste, saves money and avoids the environmental impacts of producing and distributing new consumer goods.

In 2009 in Amsterdam, the idea of the Repair Café was born. Now there are more than 3,500 community [Repair Cafes](#) around the world. Their purpose is to help people repair serviceable clothing, small appliances, lamps, electronics, jewelry, cutlery, and more while building a community culture of service and repair. Volunteer repair coaches share their skills and demonstrate to patrons how repairs are done. Repair Café International also shares an immense do-it-yourself [repair library](#) to build skills.

[Oak Park](#) started the first Repair Café in our region in 2013 and boasts a repair rate of 68%. There are now also repair cafes in Lyons Township, Romeoville, Evanston, and Chicago. This meeting will bring together hosts and organizers of these community repair events.

Come learn about how these events work and how you can partner to bring a useful community repair event to your community.

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[GRC](#) goal and objectives: Engage the community in waste reduction and recycling. Educate the community to reduce waste by consuming less and reusing. Encourage residents and businesses to contribute their time and resources to sustain the community. Utilize strategic partnerships with other community organizations to promote sustainability.

[Climate Action Plan](#) strategy: Support circular economies.