



Kingwood Township Environmental Commission Annual Report for 2010

Grants

ANJEC Smart Growth Grant for Open Space & Recreation Plan.

- Held public forum 2/20/10.
- Held Project Team meetings.
- Developed paper & online Open Space & Recreation opinion survey & compiled survey results.

Wrote proposal (with Banisch Associates) for ANJEC Smart Growth Grant for Sustainability Plan (not funded)

Recycling

An EC member is the recycling coordinator (Cynthia Niciecki):

- Attended SWAC meetings
- Was a member of recycling subcommittee of SWAC
- Collected & submitted recycling figures to the state: 2009 tonnage report: 2283.54, an increase of more than 900 tons from 2008 (up 67%), which was 1366.98 tons.
- Coordinated pick-up of recycling bins when full—about every 2 weeks & removed non-recyclables when possible.
- Added scrap metal dumpster (Twp gets paid for metal by M&A).
- Added clothing/shoe bin (free collection by a non-profit, Planet Aid).
- Took batteries collected at Kingwood to Hunterdon County Hazardous collection day.
- Obtained 14 event recycling receptacles—used at Community Day & available for other events.
- Submitted quarterly municipal recycling report to Hunterdon County (required by County).

EC members volunteered for Saturday morning hours. Removed non-recyclables when possible.

Township adopted Recycling Ordinance. It was part of compliance with the Amendment to the County's Solid Waste Management Plan.

Updated recycling instruction sheet, which was mailed to all residents & available on the website.

Created an alphabetical list of recyclables and where/how they may be recycled for the website.

"Recycling Center" Signs were added at the end of the driveway & at the road intersections Union Rd with Barbertown-Point Breeze & Union with Route 519.

Open Space and Parks & Recreation

Worked with the Open Space Committee and Parks & Recreation Committee to update of the Open Space & Recreation Plan (also with consultant Banisch Associates) (should be completed & adopted Feb. 2011).

Conservation Easement markers (describe in more detail?)

Helped build trail with Boy Scouts on Lockatong Wildlife Management Area on 4/10 & 4/11/10.

Posted "No Hunting" signs with Boy Scouts on Schuck Property (NJDEP easement property, partially in Delaware Township) on 12/18/10.

Memo to Parks & Rec suggesting a subcommittee to address pond management to comply with new regulations for aquatic pesticide use. No action taken because Parks & Rec informed EC that regulations don't apply due to lack of outlet to a stream.

Ordinances

Provided assistance and comments on the Solar Ordinance 16-16-2010 (adopted 12/7/10).

Recycling Ordinance adopted in compliance with the Amendment to the County's Solid Waste Management Plan.

Outreach/Education

Keep updated on new environmental information and environmental regulations and provide this information to the Township Committee, Planning Board, etc.

- Other than topics mentioned elsewhere, also noted difference in plat date on plans submitted to Twp and NJDEP—brought this to the attention of the Planning Bd
- Completed 10 points of Stormwater education projects, as required by NJDEP.

Obtained donation from Shoprite of 75 reusable shopping bags and distributed them to residents via water sampling program & Community Day.

Purchased “EQ Challenge Game” from ANJEC & used at Community Day (about energy conservation).

Expanded public environmental education and outreach:

- Expanded information on Kingwood website on Arsenic in ground water, arsenic removal, recycling.
- Idling
- Community Day 9/18/10—information on arsenic, invasive species, and deer population & recycling.

Sponsored speakers on environmental topics:

- 4/27/10—Ground Water in Kingwood Township by Dr. Gail Ashley a Professor of Earth and Planetary Science Rutgers University, and Debbie Kratzer, both EC members; and Zoltan Szabo a Geochemist with the U.S. Geological Survey.

Continued environmental education/stream monitoring with students in Kingwood Twp. School (spring & fall).

Continued to cultivate working relationship with community organizations for conservation projects such as roadside cleanups and recycling day assistance.

Sent a letter to a resident concerning information and assistance for Underground Storage Tank removal (11/17/10).

Reviewed MEL Quarterly Homeowner Well Sampling Results

Reviewed Kingwood Township 2009 Certified Septic Totals (new and replacements)

Site Plan Review

Summarized and presented information to the Planning Board concerning environmental features on the following sites proposed for development:

- Clean Generation Solar Energy Farm V4-070 (block 15 lot 4.03) - 873 Route 12 - EC review on 10/01/2010.
- Clean Generation Solar Energy Farm V4-069 (block 12 lots 16.0 & 16.01) - 1038 Route 12 - EC review on 11/2/2010.

Surface Water

Cooperated with and supported implementation project(s) for Lockatong and Wickecheoke Watersheds Restoration and Protection Plan.

Ground Water

Coordinated well testing for arsenic, a naturally occurring carcinogen commonly found in Kingwood's ground water, (bottles available through Kingwood Township School and at the Municipal Building, at cost of \$15, QC Laboratory performed the analyses).

- Collected sample bottles on 5/24 and 5/25/10. 125 samples were tested, 66 (53%) of which exceeded the NJ standard for arsenic in drinking water.
- NJGS Arsenic treatment flyer was provided to the lab to enclose in all water test results.

Coordinated well testing and septic pumping during community day.

Meetings/Courses

Participated in regional group meetings:

- Lockatong/Wickecheoke Committee (Elaine Niemann).
- Delaware & Raritan Greenway—Sandy McNicol attended presentation about native species

- 1/10.
- David Posey attended ANJEC environmental commissioner training 3/10.
 - Hunterdon County Round Table—Sandy McNicol attended presentation about invasive species 3/10.
 - Signed up for Central Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team (CJISSF) 6/10 (Sandy McNicol) -
Note: Name changed to New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team.
 - Endangered and Nongame Species Advisory Committee (ENSAC, a NJDEP committee)
presentation: Environmental Commission Perspective on the Landscape Project by Debbie Kratzer, September 21, 2010.

2010 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEMBERS

Deborah Kratzer (Chairwoman)

Lois Voronin (Vice-Chairwoman)

Elaine Niemann, Committeewoman

Gail M. Ashley

Sandra McNicol

Cynthia Niciecki

David Posey

Nicole L. Voigt (resigned in August)

Jerry Fields (appointed in November)

Joseph Zgurzynski, **Alt. #1**

Richard Abbott, **Alt. #2**

Cynthia L. Keller, Secretary