

Getting organized

Mission statement

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Annual report

Budget





Mission statement

Why does EC exist?



Sample mission statements

The mission of the **Summit Environmental Commission** (EC) is to provide leadership and vision in advising the City of Summit on actions and policies of sustainability including preservation and enhancement of the quality of Summit's environment and natural resources, as well as the health, well - being and quality of life of its residents and businesses.

“The **Mantoloking Environmental Commission** seeks to improve the environmental quality of our land, bay, and ocean. Through education and outreach, the Commission encourages citizens to incorporate environmentally responsible practices into homes, gardens, and daily life. The Commission’s goal is to improve the health of the land and the surrounding waters while reducing the potential to harm the environment.”





EC Bylaws

How does EC operate?

- Attendance requirements
- Meeting requirements and cancellation policy
- Subcommittee and advisory member appointments
- Preparation and distribution of meeting minutes
- Other record keeping



Sample bylaws

Excerpt from Jersey City Environmental Commission bylaws

1.7 - Meetings

1.7-1 Regular meetings of the Environmental Commission shall be held in the place and at the time and day designated at the annual reorganization meeting. The Commission will hold an annual reorganization meeting at the regularly scheduled May meeting of the Commission. If a regular meeting falls on a legal holiday, the meeting shall be held on such other date as the Commission may select at the annual reorganization meeting. The Commission shall also fix the date of the following year's reorganization meeting.

1.7-2 At all meetings of the Commission, a quorum for conducting any business shall consist of four (4) regular or alternate members. In the absence of a quorum, the members present may adjourn the meeting to another date. If such other date is not a regularly scheduled meeting proper notices must be sent and posted in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

1.7-3 Public participation shall be limited to five minutes per person unless otherwise stated by the Chairman.

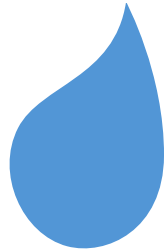


Sample bylaws

Excerpt from Hamilton Twp. Environmental Advisory Board bylaws (Mercer)

- Associate Members - The mayor may appoint four associate members for a term of one year. Each year each associate member term appointed shall expire. The associate members shall not be entitled to vote with the commission.
- Vacancies - A vacancy on the Commission of a member or alternate member occurring otherwise than by expiration of a term shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as an original appointment.
- Attendance Requirements
 1. Members shall be in attendance at all meetings of the Commission. In the event that a member will not be able to attend said meeting, he/she shall contact the Chair or Secretary at least two (2) hours prior to the meeting.
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 2. The unexcused absence of a member from two (2) consecutive meetings or four (4) total meetings within a calendar year shall constitute recommendation for removal of such member from the Commission with just cause.





EC Goals

What do we plan to
accomplish this year?



Annual goals



Elk Township, NJ
Boards and Commissions

Environmental Commission



Environmental Commission Goals

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[Boards and Commissions](#)

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The Environmental Commission is made up individuals from across the 4 districts of Elk Township with varying backgrounds and expertise. Goals of the Commission are:

- Research and make recommendations about the use of open space and land preservation.
- Study and make recommendations regarding the protection of the environment in Elk Township.
- Develop a tree ordinance for the preservation of our trees and to mitigate the negative impact of development in our growing township.
- Research grants for wildlife parks.
- Research subdivision water quality calculations including the NJDEP Nitrate/Nitrogen model for septic systems.
- Monitor current environmental and conservation issues with respect to on-going development in Elk Township.
- We will work closely with the Township Committee and the Planning/Zoning Board to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of their decisions and actions in Elk.

Environmental Commission



Welcome to the home page for the Teaneck Environmental Commission. We welcome your questions, comments, inquiries and suggestions.

Here is a list of the major goals for 2016:

- Private Tree Ordinance. Improve Intergroup Relations & Coordination with groups including Shade Tree Advisory Board, Hackensack River Greenway Advisory Board, Teaneck Creek Conservancy, Friends of the Greenway, Parks, Playgrounds and Recreation Advisory Board.
- Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan, aka "Complete Streets". Follow Up with the Council.
- Recycling. How to help educate the community, including schools.
- Reducing the use of Plastic Bags. Keep a close watch on the advance of this Girl Scout initiative, to try and bring them support.
- Trash Collection Proposal (introducing public waste collection, minimizing the waste and traffic of multiple carriers serving the same streets, by presenting a bidding process for each of Teaneck's eight collection zones), as well as submitting PAYT proposal to the Council (see this [EPA implementation guide](#))
- Advance Sustainability: Merge Sustainability Commission into EC; Reorganize Green Team; Assist Town in recertification under Sustainable Jersey Program.





Annual report

What should it include?

- Roster of members
- Meeting dates for the year
- List of activities and accomplishments
- Consider including goals for the coming year



Washington Township Environmental Commission

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Report highlights significant activities and accomplishments of the Washington Township Environmental Commission during 2015.

2015 Membership

Appointed Members:

Leon Lakritz, Chair
Vicky Binetti, Vice Chair
Harry Larzelere, Treasurer
John Boyer, Planning Board Member
Ann Culkin
Anne Hastings
Russ Price
Lola Pellegrino, Alternate
Chet Nawowski, Alternate

Dorothy Hunter, Secretary

Associate Members:

Ed Andricola
Cheryl Reardon (ANJEC)
Robin Dahm
Rich Fini
Steve Hastings
Michael Keating
Bill Neimeister
Mark Phillips
Jodie Smith
Bob Starrantino
Devin Walker

The purpose of the Environmental Commission is the protection, development and use of natural resources, including water resources, in Washington Township. (Washington Township Code §2-61)

Council Liaison: Sean Longfellow

2015 Meetings

The Environmental Commission meets on the first Thursday of each month, with workshop meetings on third Thursdays, as needed. The business meeting scheduled for March 5 was cancelled because of inclement weather. Meetings in 2015 were convened on the following dates:

January 15	July 2
February 5	August 6
March 19 (workshop)	September 3
April 2	September 17 (workshop)
May 7	October 1
May 21 (workshop)	November 5
June 4	December 3
June 18 (workshop)	

Minutes of meetings are posted at www.twp.washington.nj.us (see Boards & Commissions).

Earth Day Celebration

The Environmental Commission marked its twenty-fifth celebration of Earth Day by departing from its tradition of outdoor fairs in Washington Lake Park, and instead sponsoring numerous activities that reflected the historic intention of the holiday: *Think globally. Act locally.* The Commission sought to engage our residents in educational events and locally-based activities on the days surrounding Earth Day (April 22nd) throughout the Township. We partnered with community and civic groups, neighborhood associations, and local experts to encourage appreciation of the natural environment and an understanding of ways to improve environmental stewardship at the local level and in our individual actions.

A main feature of the 2015 events, on weekends before and after Earth Day, was Neighborhood Beautification. The Master Gardeners, landscape architect Alan Koch, and Environmental Commissioners joined volunteers to refresh and renew entrances to several subdivisions in the Township: weeding, clearing and trimming vegetation in islands and entry areas and replanting beds and gardens with a focus on attractive, low maintenance and water conserving ground cover and shrubs. Assistance with debris removal, watering and mulching was provided by the Township Public Works Department, Whitman Square Fire Company and Peach Country Tractor, respectively. An objective of this effort is to encourage other developments to undertake similar facelifts, with the result of enhancing the appearance and

environmental performance of these local elements of our landscape. Shown here are projects at Robindale Manor, Twin Ponds, Bateman Farms and Whitman Square.



Community-Wide Clean-Up Day



Since 2004, the Environmental Commission has sponsored an Annual Community-Wide Clean-Up Day. On October 10th, 2015, more than 300 volunteers from school groups, community and civic organizations, businesses and the general public joined forces to remove litter and trash from 19 areas throughout the Township. The clean-up activity focused on parks, roadsides, open space parcels and other public areas. The accumulated bags of trash and recycling were collected by Township Public Works staff.



After the morning's efforts, volunteers were invited to a barbecue in Washington Lake Park, as a token of the Township's appreciation for their efforts.

Over hot dogs and hamburgers grilled by members of Washington Township Council, the Administration, and other

volunteers, participants bragged about their most unusual trash discoveries and shared their pride in making the Township sparkle.



Purchases of safety vests, trash bags, gloves and collection tools, as well as food, drink supplies for the barbecue were supported by generous contributions from Township businesses, professional and civic organizations and individuals. Our successful 2015 Clean-Up Day was truly a community-wide event.

Other Natural Resource-Related Activities

Endangered Species Protection



Swamp pink grows in shady, wooded wetland areas; populations have diminished because of destruction and deterioration of the plant's habitat. Swamp Pink plant once occurred in wetland areas from New York to Georgia, but today 70% of the known remaining sites are in New Jersey.

In August 2014, a 2100-linear foot fence was installed on one of the Township's open space parcels to protect a local population of the Swamp Pink plant. The purpose of the fence is to deter damage to the plants by human vandalism or animal foraging. Swamp Pink (*Helonius bullata*) is listed as a threatened species under the federal Endangered Species Act and is categorized as endangered by the State of New Jersey.

The installation of the fence was funded by a grant to Washington Township from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP); the South Jersey Land and Water Trust (SJLWT) has provided assistance with the installation and maintenance of the fence. Unfortunately, a number of very large trees felled by the June 23rd microburst caused extensive damage to portions of the fence. The largest fallen trees were removed, with support from the USFWS and the Township's Tree Trust Fund, and the collapsed portions of the fence were repaired by volunteers from the SJLWT, the Environmental Commission and the Township's Open Space Advisory Committee in December 2015.





EC budget

- ANJEC dues
- Courses and conferences
- Supplies for educational programs & events
- Professional fees, i.e. environmental consultant
- Outreach expense, i.e. website, FB advertising, printing, postage, signs
- Development of ERI, plans, studies or inventories
- Software or hardware needs
- Other