

46th ANNUAL
ENVIRONMENTAL
CONGRESS

1969 - 2019
50 ANJEC
FIFTY YEARS LOCAL ENVIRONMENT MATTERS

The Conference Center at Mercer County College, West Windsor
Friday, October 4, 2019



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Happy 50th anniversary, ANJEC!



46th Annual Environmental Congress Agenda

- 8:15 Registration, Exhibits, Continental Breakfast, Electric Vehicle Expo
- 9:00 Welcome – Jennifer M. Coffey, ANJEC Executive Director
- Presentation of 2019 Environmental Achievement Awards
 - Presentation of ANJEC Environmental Journalism Award
- 9:30 Featured Speaker: NJDEP Commissioner, Catherine R. McCabe
- 10:30 Workshop Session I
- 12:00 Lunch and Exhibits, Electric Vehicle Expo
- 1:00 ANJEC Annual Meeting and Membership Vote
- 1:10 Presentation of Fourth Annual Candace McKee Ashmun
Environmental Legacy Award
- 1:20 Presentation of Municipal Leadership Awards
- 1:30 Keynote Address: *New Jersey's Changing Climate: What Lies Ahead?*
Dr. Anthony Broccoli, Professor and Chair of the Rutgers
Department of Environmental Sciences and Co-Director of the
Rutgers Climate Institute
- 2:30 Workshop Session II
- 4:00 50th Anniversary Celebration, Refreshments (Beer & Wine)
- 4:30 Adjourn

Our speakers:

Catherine R. McCabe, a long-time federal environmental leader, assumed her duties as Acting Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) on January 22, 2018. Commissioner McCabe comes to the NJDEP after a distinguished career in government service, environmental law and program management. Most recently, she served as U.S. EPA Deputy Region 2 Administrator in New York City. Previously, she was a judge on EPA's Environmental Appeals Board, and the Deputy Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. Commissioner McCabe joined the EPA after 22 years with the U.S. Department of Justice, where she served in various positions as a manager and trial attorney in the Environment and Natural Resources Division.

Commissioner McCabe holds a law degree from Columbia Law School, as well as a bachelor's degree in environmental science from Barnard College. She originally hails from Albany, NY, and is the mother of three adult children.



Catherine R. McCabe



Dr. Anthony Broccoli

Dr. Anthony Broccoli is Professor of Atmospheric Science and Chair of the Department of Environmental Sciences at Rutgers University, where he also serves as Co-Director of the Rutgers Climate Institute. His primary research interest is climate dynamics, especially the simulation of past climates and climate change. He has recently served as Co-Chief Editor of the *Journal of Climate*, and he has been a contributor and reviewer for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Prior to coming to Rutgers, Dr. Broccoli spent 21 years at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory in Princeton, one of the leading climate modeling centers in the world. He is a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

A woman wearing a white hard hat with the Atlantic City Electric logo and a high-visibility vest is holding a plant in a nursery setting. The background is a blue-tinted image of a nursery with many plants.

A COMMITMENT THAT GROWS EVERY DAY

Our commitment to conservation, environmental stewardship, and the communities we serve touches everything we do. We're proud to support the Association of NJ Environmental Commissions 2019 Environmental Congress.

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Candy Ashmun

ANJEC's fourth annual Candace McKee Ashmun Environmental Legacy Award Presented to Governor James J. Florio

This award is named in honor of ANJEC's first director, Candace McKee Ashmun. Candy has served a leadership role at ANJEC for over 40 years. She steadfastly supports ANJEC's goal of achieving responsible and sustainable use of New Jersey's natural resources. Candy's dedication and expertise has empowered ANJEC to provide leadership, education and support for environmental commissions and other local officials who are advocating for strong state and regional environmental protection and restoration. In addition to her dedication to ANJEC, Candy is a tireless leader for New Jersey's environment, a long-standing founding member of the New Jersey Pinelands Commission, and a mentor and inspiration to generations of environmental advocates and stewards.

Governor James J. Florio is a Founding Partner of Florio Perrucci Steinhardt & Cappelli, LLC, and is based in the Cherry Hill, New Jersey office. He is a Senior Fellow for Public Policy and Administration at the Edward J. Bloustein Graduate School of Public Policy at Rutgers University.

Mr. Florio served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York and as Chairman of the Pinelands Commission in New Jersey.

Currently, Mr. Florio serves on the Board of Directors of the NJ Health Care Quality Institute, is

Co-Chairman of the Regional Plan Association's New Jersey Committee, and, is a member of the Board of Trustees of The Fund for New Jersey.



Governor James Florio

Mr. Florio entered public service in 1969, serving three terms in the New Jersey General Assembly. He served as the 49th Governor of the State of New Jersey from 1990 through 1994 and in the United States House of Representatives from the 1st Congressional District from 1974 through 1990.

As Governor of New Jersey, Mr. Florio signed into law *The Clean Water Enforcement Act* (1990) which was one of the strongest environmental laws of its type in the United States. As a Member of Congress, Mr. Florio authored the *Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act*, known as the

"Superfund" law, our nation's primary program for cleaning up hazardous waste sites. As Chairman of the House Subcommittee with jurisdiction over environmental matters, he was involved in the drafting or passage of virtually every major piece of federal environmental legislation.

Mr. Florio was inducted into the 2014 New Jersey Hall of Fame for his public service.

Mr. Florio is a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He served four years of active duty and 18 years in the Active Naval Reserve and retired with the rank of Lieutenant Commander in 1975.

2019 ANJEC Environmental Achievement Awards

Environmental Commission Category

Berkeley Heights Environmental Commission: BERKELEY HEIGHTS VEGAN FEST 2018

The Berkeley Heights Environmental Commission (BHEC) sponsored a three-day long Vegan Fest. Through attendee education and participation, the event aims to provide residents with tools to incorporate healthy living into their daily lives. All parts of the event were free and open to the public. Over 100 people, babies through seniors, attended the event.

Cherry Hill Environmental Board: CONSERVATION COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

The Cherry Hill Environmental Board (CHEB) decided to provide opportunities for community groups and individuals to help improve public lands.

By establishing a recruitment and volunteer coordinator, the conservation projects worked on and completed one or more of the following:

- a. Connection of people with nature
- b. Erosion prevention or control
- c. Litter and debris mitigation
- d. Invasive species removal
- e. Sustainable trail use of open space lands

They had both one-off and long term projects available for volunteers to work on. Using social media to inform commercial groups was particularly successful. They broke down their volunteer projects into organizational, national, and individual intensive categories and tailored projects to meet the needs of the volunteers so that they could have team building opportunities.

Closter Environmental Commission: CLOSTER MCBAIN FARM

This 20 year old project was remarkably successful in 2019 – with a large increase in volunteers and visitors. In addition, in 2019, the Borough Council added the farmland to their Recreation and Open Space Inventory while designating the Farmhouse a historic property.

There are no pesticides used on the farm. Closter residents are permitted to pick one red bucket full of veggies each day the farm is opened at no cost whatsoever. Residents are encouraged to volunteer at the farm to help with weeding, in addition to welcoming visitors and

learning and teaching about what happens at the farm. There is a section of the farm, close to the parking lot that has a handicapped accessible entrance with paver paths and raised beds for handicapped individuals to also enjoy the farm experience.

Delaware Township Environmental Commission: MEADOW TRAIL

In 2007 a subdivision resulted in the donation of open space acreage, located between homes on one side of the subdivision and the Delaware Township School (DTS). This open space acreage, which had been farmed for several years, contained a wetlands area that had been plowed under. The Delaware Township Environmental Commission (EC) capitalized on this opportunity to restore the wetlands and the surrounding area back to its native habitat for use as a community resource, transforming it into an outdoor STEM classroom for the 400-500 students at the adjacent school and an open space stewardship education site for the greater community.

It is the EC's vision to use this restored natural habitat:

- 1) as a model for residents whose properties contain conservation easements (85-90 percent of all Township developments in the past 20 yrs.) or wetlands (30-35 percent of Township properties, including 20 percent of farms with hedgerow drainage swales);
- 2) to educate current as well as future generations of Township residents to value and protect their community's natural beauty;
- 3) to promote support for future EC projects; and
- 4) to mitigate resistance to conservation efforts through environmental education.

Hackensack Environmental Commission: HACKENSACK COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Hackensack Environmental Commission (EC) was reformed in 2018 and among one of their duties is to research the use and possible use of the open land areas of the city. The EC located an area of land that was being under-utilized and had become a storage place for Department of Public works equipment which was not an optimal use of the land. Hackensack is undergoing a redevelopment which includes many new apartment buildings, so the need to provide the residents of the city with usable green space has become very important. With a recommendation from the EC, the City Council passed a resolution designating that area of land along with the greenhouse to be designated as green space.

Achievement Awards Continued

Included in the property is a kiosk for notices and educational materials. The walkways include railings and are ADA compliant to allow for wheelchair access. Many of the members were first time gardeners and there was a lot of sharing of planting basics along with individual techniques for successful gardening.

The garden has become a community hub and provides educational opportunities for residents. Planting the community garden there has refocused attention on this unused resource.

Hopewell Township (Mercer) Environmental Committee:

OUT OF THE ASHES AND THE AMERICAN CHESTNUT

The Hopewell Township Environmental Committee conducted an inventory of ash trees in 2017, when the incipient loss of their tree cover due to the emerald ash borer became apparent. They then proposed a two-pronged approach to deal with the loss.

Working with multiple organizations in the Hopewell Valley, the EC has educated the public on the loss of the ash trees. The Hopewell Valley Arts Council worked with The Howell Living History Museum and arranged for a sawyer to mill the wood of felled ashes. The Arts Council then utilized some of the wood by “upcycling” it in the construction of educational art installations in the Township.

The EC also has committed to reforestation throughout the Township with an innovative partnership with the American Chestnut Foundation and several area environmental groups. Specific to this project, the EC has identified sites for chestnut planting throughout Hopewell Township. Orchards of chestnut trees have been planted, highlighting the efforts to restore this iconic and economically important American native tree that is in danger of extinction due to the chestnut blight. The EC is committed to helping to resurrect the American chestnut in the shadow of the great loss of ash trees.

Acquiring nuts (seeds) from a variety of sources, including seeds resulting from a hand-pollinated cross between two surviving American chestnut trees (the Kelly-Amherst variety) and seeds harvested from a surviving American tree in French Creek State Park, chestnuts were planted at multiple sites, beginning early spring 2018 and subsequently replanted where there was loss, to create groves of chestnut trees which could thrive long into the future. Multiple organizations (Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space, the Delaware & Raritan Greenway, the Sourlands Conservancy, and the Hopewell Valley Regional School District) have been participating in the chestnut plantings at multiple locations throughout the township.

Madison Environmental Commission: PLASTIC FREE WEEK

To help create momentum for a Single-Use Bag Ordinance, the Madison Environmental Commission (MEC) launched a Plastic-Free Week and urged residents to take seven voluntary actions. The campaign included a presentation to the Borough Council on the hazards of plastic pollution.

Activities included:

- *In-person handouts and an online pledge* that asked residents to check the actions they would take;
- *Reusable Bag Giveaway at Stop & Shop*; Take the pledge and receive a free reusable bag;
- *Pledge & Giveaway at the Madison Public Library's Green Fair*; Take the pledge and receive a free, native pollinator plant to help protect butterflies and bees;
- *Pledge & Giveaway at the annual town May Day clean-up*; Take the pledge at May Day and receive a free, native pollinator plant to help the butterflies and bees;
- *Outreach to businesses*; A team went to all downtown businesses to raise awareness about reducing plastic bag use;
- *Outreach to Madison Employees*; The Plastic-Free Week flyer was sent to all Borough employees;
- *Partnership with the student green team at the high school*; Project Aware, the HS green team, sent the online pledge to all students and teachers;
- *Outreach to Seniors*; The Plastic-Free flyer was included as an insert in the newsletter sent to the senior citizen community;
- *Outreach on plastic bag recycling*; The EC publicized the fact that TREC picks up used bags collected in the bins at Stop & Shop every day. They are recycled and turned into decks, fences and benches.

Waterford Twp. Environmental Commission: RECYCLING STICKER PROJECT

Waterford Township decided to undertake expanded public outreach to educate about recycling. Environmental Commission (EC) Chair, Dave Chiddenton, began attending neighboring towns' advertised recycling workshops. Using information gathered, the EC helped to create a town flyer, which incorporated Camden County and Republic (the recycling handler for Waterford) guidelines. These flyers were posted on the Township and EC Facebook pages, handed out at local events, and were available in public places, such as the town hall and library. Next the EC, with neighboring town, Berlin, who uses the same trash and recycling handler, collaborated to create a sticker to match the flyer they had already distributed throughout the town. The two towns split the cost to produce these 4,200 recycling stickers. They then advertised the fact that EC members and part-time summer township employees would be canvassing the

Achievement Awards Continued

neighborhoods on regular trash days to place these stickers on the residents' recycling bins. Within five days, they had successfully placed 3,800 stickers on bins. The extra stickers were placed in public places, such as the town hall and library, for any of the townsfolk whose cans were missed. They also handed out stickers during National Night Out, which was held a week later. Their last sticker notification was in the form of a tax bill insert, which displayed the sticker, along with a note of explanation.

Nonprofit Category

Rutgers Center for Environmental Exposures and Disease:

COUNTDOWN TO CLEANER AIR: STREET SCIENTISTS AND THE FIGHT FOR FIRST STREET

Local community members, in partnership with community-based organizations, churches, Rutgers University and elected officials took action in Elizabeth, NJ, that led to cleaner air by banning container trucks in their neighborhood.

Deacon Walter Leak of the Mt. Calvary United Church on First Street in Elizabeth makes his living driving tractor trailer trucks. He has also led the fight for a healthier and safer First Street, a narrow, two-lane city street that runs through an Elizabeth neighborhood, past schools, a childcare center and an athletic field. First Street also runs across the Elizabeth Port neighborhood parallel to the Turnpike. In order to avoid the higher toll, truckers would travel north and south on First Street as an alternative to the New Jersey Turnpike between Exits 13 and 13A. Leak sounded the alarm and worked with residents, grassroots organizations, local officials and a State legislator to ban big rigs on First Street. Leak created a campaign that included a petition drive and a community education program, and he convinced Assemblywoman Annette Quijano to champion the cause. Working with a team of residents, community-based organizations and neighborhood volunteers, the team stood on the sidewalk and counted trucks. The actual truck count tallied more than 50 trucks per hour during a typical weekday morning. Researchers, working in tandem with residents, monitored the air. According to their study, there was a spike in black carbon with each passing truck, an indicator of diesel exhaust pollution. The study shone a spotlight on how truck traffic was negatively impacting the daily lives of residents in Elizabeth. Dr. Laumbach presented the collected data to local officials during a community meeting. The officials, including Council President Torres, were convinced that there was a need to enact the ban.

On May 10, 2017, the City of Elizabeth Council unanimously passed an ordinance to restrict traffic on First Street to vehicles under four tons, essentially banning

tractor trailers. In March of 2018, the Rutgers team partnered with the EPort Presbyterian Center and Groundwork Elizabeth to do a post-ordinance assessment. According to the report: "Community truck counts documented a drastic reduction in truck traffic, especially diesel tractor trailer trucks on First Street, comparing May 24, 2013 to March 14, 2018. There was an 86 percent reduction in truck traffic. Average measurements of black carbon and ultrafine particle counts (also a sensitive indicator of traffic pollution) were consistent with the truck counts, showing a reduction of about 80 percent."

Rowan GeoLab, The Nature Conservancy and NJ Conservation Foundation: THE NEW JERSEY CONSERVATION BLUEPRINT PHASE II – PROTECTING NEW JERSEY'S LAND AND LEGACY

The Conservation Blueprint Phase II represents a major overhaul and rebranding of the website completed in June 2019. The web mapping interface was completely redesigned to be more intuitive, efficient and elegant. Multiple technical enhancements improved functionality and search capabilities. The initiative also included a major redesign and rebranding of the landing page, including new icons and logos for the various themes.

The efforts of Conservation Blueprint Phase II have paid off with a substantial positive response. They have received feedback from many constituents and users who have indicated that they regularly use the Blueprint and that it has proven valuable for conservation and environmental activities. They have maintained active attendance of the Blueprint Steering Committee, which meets about three times a year to review progress, provide feedback and establish goals.

www.njmap2.com/blueprint/

Sustainable Essex Alliance (SEA) Energy Procurement Cooperative: COMMUNITY CHOICE ENERGY AGGREGATION FOR FIVE ESSEX COUNTY TOWNS

Maplewood agreed to act as Lead Agent for the towns to be part of an energy aggregation program in the region. New ordinances allowed the towns to act as designated electricity suppliers under the provisions of the NJ GEA law. Gabel Associates managed an RFP process for a third-party electricity supplier that resulted in favorable bids for residents in the PSE&G territory. Each of the towns held town hall meetings after the contract was awarded to inform residents about the program and their right to opt out if they chose. About 85 percent of the eligible residents remained in the program, which will run through December 2020.

Achievement Awards Continued

The winning bid and the resulting contract is expected to save residents about 10 percent of the supply price, averaging about \$150 per residence (which is about 6 percent of the total including distribution charges). The provisions require that the supply include 20 percent more Renewable Energy Certificates than required by New Jersey law (almost twice as much), and marks the communities' commitment to encourage a rapid transition to renewable electricity supply. The supplier has also agreed to provide a small fund to promote local energy efficiency to be managed by the SEA cooperative.

The Cooperative sees this as the first contract to establish a baseline with the expectation that there will be future opportunities when the contract is renewed starting in late 2020 to include additional towns and to strengthen its impact on promoting cleaner and more sustainable energy throughout New Jersey. Involving multiple towns created challenges for an already difficult process, but the eventual success in working together to achieve a favorable outcome is generating results that exceed what any of the towns could have accomplished on their own.

**Congratulations to ANJEC
on their 50th Anniversary**



ANJEC is proud to be a member of:



For more information please call 973-539-7547

Check out ANJEC's Seminars:

See pages 25 through 27

Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissions

Saturday, October 26

Water Matters:

What Goes into the Ground...

Comes out of the Faucet

Thursday, November 14

Complying with NJ Stormwater Regulations:

Asking the Right Questions in
Stormwater Review

Monday, December 2

More details and other programs online at
www.anjec.org

Thanks to ANJEC member communities

ANJEC is grateful to the thousands of volunteers serving as local officials in more than 260 municipalities and counties that are members of ANJEC. These dedicated people - from municipal and regional environmental commissions and green teams to open space committees, planning boards and governing bodies - dedicate their time and efforts to assure a clean environment and high quality of life in their communities throughout our State. Thank you!

ANJEC

Environmental Journalism Award

Tom Johnson, *NJ Spotlight*

For the first time, ANJEC will present an Environmental Journalism Award for in-depth reporting that makes an exceptional contribution to the public's understanding of environmental issues in New Jersey.

This year's award goes to Tom Johnson for his 30 years of excellent environmental reporting and editing at New Jersey newspapers, including *The Newark Star-Ledger*, covering the Statehouse, energy, environmental and telecommunications issues. As Energy & Environment writer and one of the founders of *NJ Spotlight*, Tom's innovations include his "Explainer" series on complex environmental issues and several of *NJ Spotlight's* Energy Roundtable events that he moderates.

ANJEC is excited to debut the Municipal Leader Awards

This award is an opportunity for an environmental commission, shade tree, open space, green team member(s) to acknowledge their community's leadership in recognition for their exceptional environmental leadership.

Maplewood: Township Committeewoman Nancy Adams

Nancy Adams has been a force for positive change in a number of environmental arenas. In addition to serving as a liaison to the Maplewood Environmental Advisory Committee Nancy has also been busy on these initiatives:

Sponsored an ordinance banning the use of commercial gas-powered leaf blowers in Maplewood between May 15th and September 30th, of each year. In effect for the last three summers, the ordinance has not only made the community quieter, but has also stimulated the market for battery powered yard equipment. Nancy organized an educational workshop hosted by Quiet Communities, addressing local concern for the "impact that gas-powered landscape maintenance equipment has on the spheres of public health, environment, and general quality of life."

Took a leadership role in pushing for a local ordinance banning plastic bags. The ordinance went fully into effect on September 1, 2019, and is already making a change for the positive on patron behavior. Nancy also sponsored a follow-up resolution that urged Federal and State Legislators to enact ways to hold corporations that manufacture and use plastic for consumer goods to bear a substantial part of the burden for its use by such means that may include a tax, user-fee, mandated changes in manufacturing on all plastics produced and sold and place in the environment.

Newark: City Councilor Mildred Crump

Mildred Crump is Newark's first African American Councilwoman. She has served since 1994. Councilwoman Crump consistently supports the Environmental Commission, providing sound advice and political support from Council. On most occasions, the Council votes unanimously to support resolutions or ordinances brought by the Environmental Commission.

Councilwoman Crump was instrumental in getting passage of Newark's Environmental Justice and Cumulative Impacts Ordinance, the first of its kind in the United States.

Councilwoman Crump has deep concern about environmental justice. She is also the hardest-working City Council member, working many late nights. She nearly always drops in to our Environmental Commission meetings to share a word of encouragement with us.

Workshop Descriptions

Morning Session

MOVING FORWARD ON ENERGY IN NEW JERSEY – Auditorium

Municipalities can be key players in the new landscape for renewable and carbon-free energy. New Jersey's draft Energy Master Plan outlines a path forward to achieving Governor Murphy's goal of 100 percent clean energy by 2050. Community solar allows one solar installation to serve many customers, making it a desirable option for those whose rooftops are not well-suited for solar, including for renters and multifamily residents who cannot install solar. Wind energy provides 100 percent clean renewable energy, and NJ recently awarded a project bid for the largest offshore wind project in the nation. This session will provide an overview of the draft Energy Master Plan and discuss the multiple roles that municipalities can play in promoting clean energy projects.

- Hannah Thonet, Bureau Chief for Policy, Office of Clean Energy, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
- Amanda Nesheiwat, Environmental Director, Recycling Coordinator, Town of Secaucus
- Amber Hewett, Campaign Manager, Offshore Wind Energy, National Wildlife Federation
- Moderator: Nancy Quirk, Energy Program Manager, Sustainability Institute, The College of New Jersey

RAMPING UP FOR AN EV FUTURE IN YOUR TOWN – Room 116

Electric vehicles (EVs) are quickly multiplying in New Jersey, but we still have a long way to go to address our largest source of global warming emissions and air pollution -- cars, trucks, buses and heavy-duty vehicles. Putting more EV charging stations on our roads and in our downtowns will help us go the distance. Learn how NJ is charging ahead to electrify our transportation sector, how communities are moving forward with EV fleets and charging infrastructure, and what resources are available to help get it done.

- Pam Frank, Vice President, Gabel Associates
- Christine Symington, Program Director, Sustainable Princeton
- Scott Fisher, Vice-President, Greenlots
- Moderator: Doug O'Malley, Director, Environment NJ

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE – Room 117

What's been going on in Trenton lately? How is the Murphy Administration and the Legislature making sure New Jersey's natural resources are protected for years to come? And how can you make a difference? Learn the latest news on the status of State rules and laws that affect your municipality; topics will include stormwater rules, greenhouse gas emissions, clean energy, and plastic pollution.

- Elliott Ruga, Policy & Communications Director, New Jersey Highlands Coalition
- Michael Pisauro, Policy Director, The Watershed Institute
- Alex Ambrose, Policy Associate, ANJEC

URBAN GARDENING/FARMING – Room 122

Urban residents are becoming more interested in gardening and farming as a way to supplement their diets and build community. In some low-income communities, farming has become a way to provide fresh produce that can be hard to find and also expensive. In urban NJ there are programs that help to end this predicament by turning unused space and lots into a food source. This workshop will highlight urban farms and gardens in Northern and Central New Jersey. Hear insights into their process and accomplishments, including some of the challenges they faced and how these types of projects can be implemented in any community.

- Gary Terzano, Chair, Hackensack Environmental Commission
- Karen Rutberg, Urban Farm Manager, Greater Newark Conservancy
- Meredith Taylor, Rutgers School of Environmental & Biological Sciences

OPEN SPACE PROGRAMS FOR 2020 AND BEYOND: Achieving Success Together – Room 123

Hear from Caldwell Environmental Commission (EC) regarding the ECs role in managing and supporting an open space program in a small community. Highlighting the community successes of the Caldwell environmental program including their pollinator stations, gardens, and pocket parks. The Land Conservancy will detail what a municipal open space plan is and how it can help inspire, motivate and accelerate a community's open space preservation program. Success stories from Caldwell and throughout the state will be shared. NJDEP Green Acres staff will discuss ROSIs and land stewardship and what Green Acres requires.

- Ann Marchioni, Co-Chair, Caldwell Borough Environmental Commission
- Barbara Heskins Davis, Vice-President of Programs, The Land Conservancy of NJ
- Nancy Lawrence, Green Acres Compliance Officer, Bureau of Legal Services and Stewardship, NJDEP

Workshop Descriptions Continued

Morning Session Continued

ENGAGE YOUR TOWN TO GO PLASTIC-FREE – Room 213

Get ready to learn and be inspired to make your town plastic-free. Learn from municipal champions about creating regional alliances. Hear how to connect with township government and local businesses along with other engagement strategies.

- Bruce Harris, Mayor, Chatham Borough
- Elizabeth Peer, Chair, Lambertville Environmental Commission
- Jessica Romeo, Chatham Township Environmental Commission

NATIVE PLANTS, INVASIVE PLANTS & POLLINATORS – Room 216

Discover which native plants are best and why, and when to plant and cultivate them. Learn how to identify, remove and prevent new invasive species from invading. For five years ANJEC has awarded Open Space Stewardship grants, with many resulting in creative pollinator gardens. Hear from an Environmental Commission how they made their pollinator garden successful, and created buzz!

- Deb Ellis, Essex County Chapter Founder, Native Plant Society of New Jersey and Master Gardener
- Michael Van Clef, Program Director, New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team and Stewardship Director, Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space
- Jenine Tankoos, Manalapan Environmental Commission

Afternoon Session

PROTECTING NJ COASTAL ZONES & COMMUNITIES FROM SEA LEVEL RISE – Room 116

Coastal zones in New Jersey are highly developed and heavily populated while also being vulnerable to sea level rise. Learn new and innovative natural methods that allow natural revegetation and living shorelines to provide protection. Workshop will discuss:

- Identifying areas appropriate for natural dune establishment that can improve resilience and minimize costs associated with engineering dunes;
- Considerations for living shorelines and examples of current projects including their goals, associated monitoring efforts and results.
- Ryan Rebozo Ph.D., Director of Conservation Science, Pinelands Preservation Alliance
- Joshua Moody, Ph.D., Restoration Programs Manager, Partnership for the Delaware Estuary

CREATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR STORMWATER MANAGEMENT – Room 117

Join us to learn about creative ways to manage stormwater in your municipality, including green stormwater infrastructure, stormwater utilities and a rain garden rebate program.

- Jaclyn Rhoads, Assistant Executive Director, Pinelands Preservation Alliance
- Christopher Obropta, Ph.D., P.E., Director, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program
- Dan Bachalis, Hammonton Environmental Commission

SUSTAINABLE HOUSING FOR ALL: Build it like the future depends on it – Room 122

As New Jersey becomes ever more urban, housing options that are both affordable and sustainable need to be addressed to meet ambitious goals for greenhouse gas reduction. Our panelists will discuss sustainable building practices such as passive housing, address available green financing programs, and present green design case studies for low-income housing projects.

- Heidi Fichtenbaum, Senior Project Manager, Fairleigh Dickinson University; Princeton Environmental Commission
- Pam DeLosSantos, Assistant Director of Technical Services, New Jersey Housing & Mortgage Finance Agency
- Lauren Zullo, Director of Environmental Impact, Johnathan Rose Companies

WHY THE 2020 CENSUS MATTERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONS – Room 123

The 2020 Census plays a key role in environmental justice issues, determining the distribution of \$23 billion annually in Newark, political representation in Congress, and producing planning data that help identify and target environmentally vulnerable communities. Programs ranging from hazardous waste management to water pollution control to beach monitoring depend on accurate Census counts to be distributed fairly across the United States. Please join local advocates and the U.S. Census Bureau to learn about how local environmental commissions can play a critical role in ensuring that their community has a fair count and fair voice in the 2020 Census.

- Peter Chen, Policy Counsel, Advocates for Children of New Jersey
- Jeff Behler, Director, New York Regional Office, U.S. Census Bureau

Workshop Descriptions Continued

Afternoon Session Continued

RECYCLING IN NJ: Status and Future Possibilities – Room 213

Recycling programs in NJ and around the country are in a state of crisis. Find out what measures are needed to address the crisis to insure that recyclable materials are getting recycled and staying out of landfills. Hear from MUA staff on how to ensure compliance with recycling rules in your municipality as well as tools and programs that can work to reduce plastic pollution and support recycling. Also, hear how an Environmental Commission has created a community wide campaign to reduce contamination in the recycling stream.

- Gary Sondermeyer, Vice President of Operations, Bayshore Family of Companies
- Amy Cook-Menzel, Communications Manager, Atlantic County MUA
- Terri and Dave Chiddenton, Waterford Environmental Commission

TOOLS FOR NJ HIGHLANDS REGION ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONERS – Room 217

Interactive Mapping and Grant Funding in Northwest New Jersey – Computer Lab

The New Jersey Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council provides tools and funding to support a regional planning approach to land use and natural resource management. Environmental Commissioners can use the Council's free, online interactive map to explore a wide range of natural and built features of the Highlands Region (portions of Bergen, Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties).

This session will provide an overview of how to use this tool to gather data, create maps, and produce parcel-based resource reports. Participants will learn about Highlands Council planning grants available to municipalities and counties. Environmental commissioners can serve as vital conduits to municipal officials, educating them about the wide variety of planning grants available, including planning for stormwater management, master plan updates, redevelopment, lake management, land preservation, historic preservation, and much more.

- Lisa Plevin, Executive Director, New Jersey Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council; Parsippany-Troy Hills Environmental Commission
- Keri Green, Science Manager, New Jersey Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council
- James Humphries, Director of Planning and Science, New Jersey Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council



**New Jersey Conservation Foundation salutes the work of
ANJEC and volunteer Environmental Commissioners.**



**New Jersey Conservation
FOUNDATION**

Visit our new website - <https://www.njconservation.org>

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Stores are proud to support ANJEC.



Thank **YOU** for your community-based sustainability efforts
and for helping **US** celebrate Earth Day everyday!

Food for Thought

Let's celebrate Earth Day every day. For more information shoprite.com/sustainability



Fifty Years

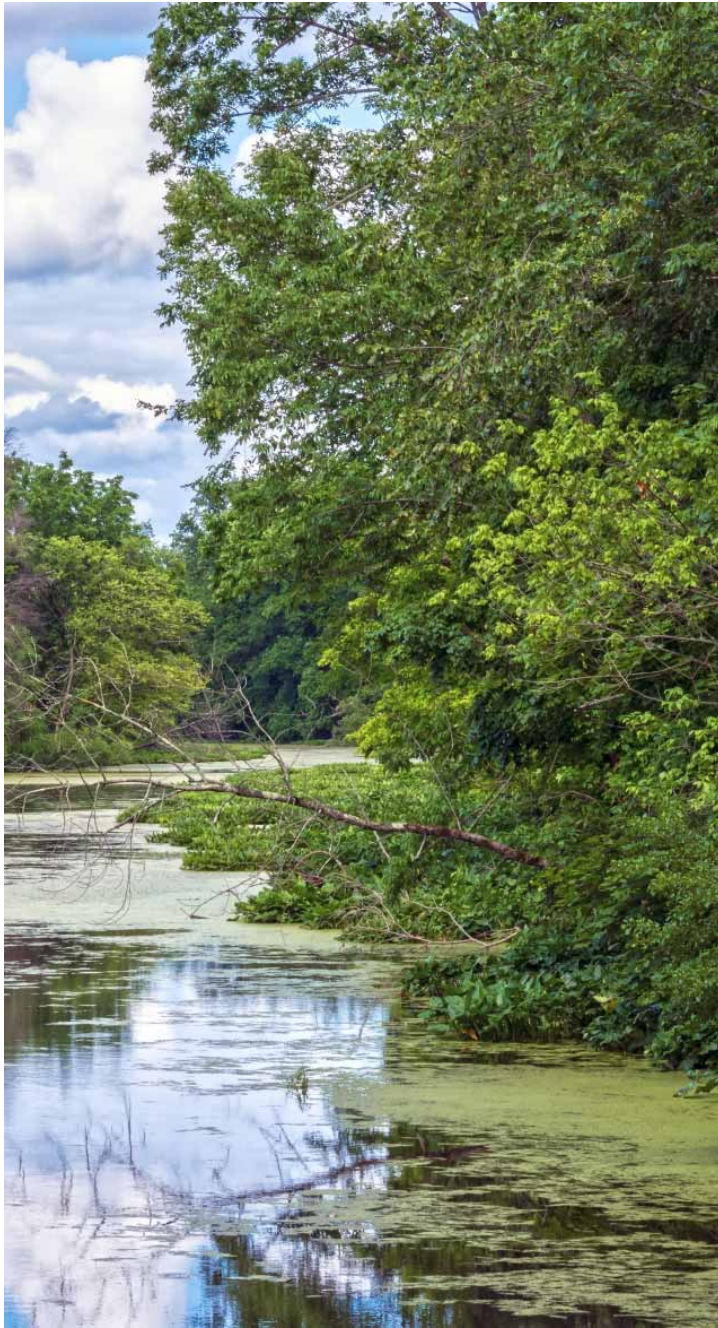


ANJEC

ENVIRONMENT MATTERS

of Memories





HAB Public Forum Tuesday, October 8

7:30pm to 10:30pm
Mountain Lakes High School
96 Powerville Rd
Mountain Lakes

This forum is hosted through a partnership between the NJ Highlands Coalition, NJ League of Conservation Voters Education Fund, ANJEC, NJ Coalition of Lake Associations, Mt. Lakes Environmental Commission, and the Whippany River Watershed Action Committee.

HAB Public Forum Wednesday, October 9

7:30pm to 10:30pm
Almond Branch Church & Resource Center
184 Marshall Hill Road
West Milford

This forum is hosted through a partnership between the NJ Highlands Coalition, NJ League of Conservation Voters Education Fund, ANJEC, Greenwood Lake Commission, NJ Coalition of Lake Associations.

Bring your questions about the environmental factors that cause harmful algal blooms in New Jersey and hear from experts about strategies to mitigate future blooms affecting our lakes and reservoirs.

Our panel includes New Jersey's leading scientific experts on aquatic ecology, lake management and stormwater infrastructure.

- Christopher Obropta, Ph.D, P.E.
(Director, Rutgers Water Resources Program)
- Steven Souza, Ph.D. (Founder, Princeton Hydro)
- James Cosgrove, Jr. P.E. (Vice President, Kleinfelder)

These forums are free and open to the public.

Please register at www.anjec.org to receive updates concerning the event, and for us to share the resources from the forum after the event.

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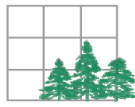
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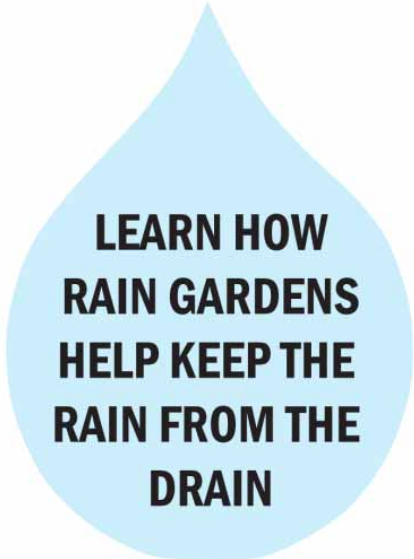
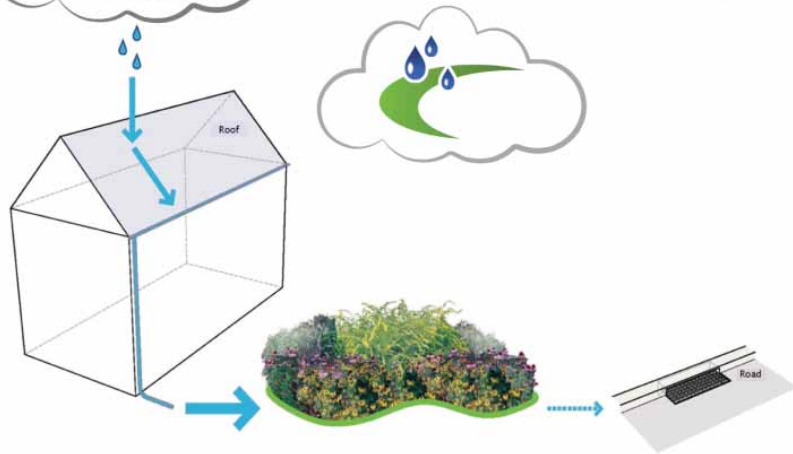
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Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program is working with municipalities across the state to promote climate resiliency through better stormwater management.



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HELP KEEP THE
RAIN FROM THE
DRAIN**

For more information contact
Christopher C. Obropta, Ph.D., P.E.
Extension Specialist in Water Resources
obropta@envsci.rutgers.edu



RCE Water Resources Program
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 water@envsci.rutgers.edu
 water.rutgers.edu

LSRPA Congratulates ANJEC on 50 Years!

We celebrated 10 years in 2019.

LSRPA's 900 members have cleaned up more than 14,000 cases in those 10 years. The result: reducing the threat of contamination to public health and returning underutilized properties to productive use.

LSRPA welcomes ANJEC members to contact us at njlsrpa@memberclicks-mail.net for assistance with your questions on remediation.

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Annual Meeting Notice:

ANJEC's Board of Trustees have proposed amendments to the organization's bylaws and ask for the memberships' vote of support to approve these amendments. The bylaws are proposed for change to facilitate compliance with best management practices, legal, and ethical guidance to avoid actual or perceived conflicts of interest as advised by counsel.

The annual meeting and vote on these proposed amendments will be held at the Congress.

The proposed new bylaws with amendments were emailed to membership beginning on September 2, 2019, and copies are available for review at the registration table.



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50TH ANNIVERSARY AND 46TH ENVIRONMENTAL CONGRESS

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Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissions

Saturday, October 26
9:00 am – 1:30 pm
Bell Works
(Ground floor Meeting Room)
101 Crawfords Corner Rd.
Holmdel

Join ANJEC staff and other experts for a full morning of training. Learn how to be an effective member of a municipal environmental commission.

This program is newly updated and will include break out sessions for experienced and new environmental commissioners.

More hands-on training and networking opportunity also planned.



Agenda includes:

- Responsibilities and powers of an environmental commission
- Site plan review
- Creating/updating an ERI
- The Municipal Master Plan and the Environmental Commission's role in the process
- Update on plastic actions in NJ
- Reviewing and updating municipal environmental ordinances

Registration:

ANJEC members: No charge to attend

Non-members: \$45

To register, email ANJEC info@anjec.org, or call 973-539-7547.

Water Matters:

What Goes into the Ground...Comes out of the Faucet

Thursday, November 14

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Pittsgrove Town Hall
989 Centerton Road
Pittsgrove



Learn how you can make a difference in protecting clean water right in your own backyard! Many communities in New Jersey rely on septic systems for treating wastewater. Good maintenance of septic systems is essential to protecting water and prevents costly problems and repairs.

English Sewage Disposal will present Septic 101, discussing the why, what, & when of septic maintenance, including how to identify and avoid septic problems. Each workshop attendee will receive a discount coupon from English Sewage.

Rain gardens are another way to be part of clean water solutions. Rain gardens use natural filtering to remove toxins from stormwater runoff before seeping into the groundwater. In addition to protecting your drinking water, rain gardens help prevent flooding during storm events. Also, native plants provide habitat for birds and pollinators and add visual appeal.

This workshop is recommended for Environmental Commission members, residents, business owners, township officials, planners, green team and open space committee members.

Registration:

ANJEC members: No charge to attend

Non-members: \$15

To register, email ANJEC info@anjec.org, or call 973-539-7547.



Funding for this program and the Rain Garden Rebate Program provided by:
The William Penn Foundation and the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation

Complying with NJ Stormwater Regulations:

Asking the Right Questions in Stormwater Review

Monday, December 2

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
via webinar

In person webinar participation available:

Pilesgrove Municipal Building
1180 Route 40 East
Pilesgrove

This program will highlight steps to guide you and your municipality to ensure that new development is in compliance with the New Jersey stormwater management regulations*. Presentation will include review of the Stormwater eLearning Tool.

Presenters include:

- Christopher C. Obropta, Ph.D., P.E., Director, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program
- Cheryl Reardon, South Jersey Project Director, ANJEC

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This interactive training tool is designed for Municipal Board and Governing Body members to provide a general understanding of the post construction section of the permit so that they can “ask the right questions” during their review.

*This webinar meets standards for educational points for MS4 permits public education and outreach that must be completed by current municipal board and governing bodies within 6 months of commencing duties.

Certificate of completion will be issued to participants.

Participants will also receive

NJ Forest Service, Urban & Community Forestry Program (NJUCF) CEUs.

Registration details:

ANJEC Members: No charge to participate

Non-members: \$10

To register: Email ANJEC info@anjec.org with name and affiliation, or call 973-539-7547



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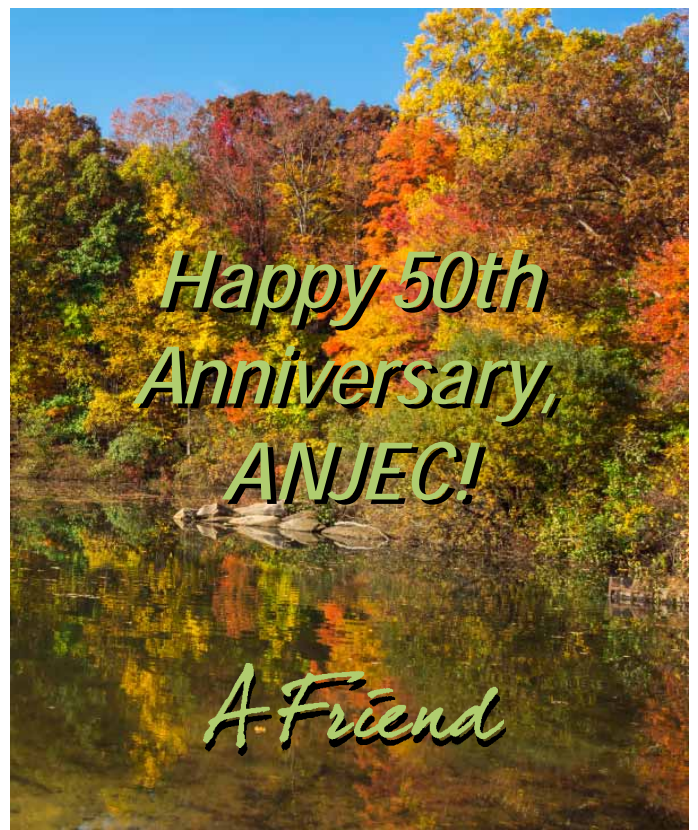
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