Welcome
Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissioners
ANJEC’s Mission

To promote **local action** to protect and restore New Jersey's natural resources and ensure equitable, healthy communities. ANJEC advances its mission by engaging in **diverse and inclusive practices** through leadership, partnerships, education, advocacy for strong public policy and support of environmental commissions, public officials, and communities throughout New Jersey.

Members of the ANJEC Board of Trustees
Education to Empower EC Action

- **Resource Center** – model ordinances, handbooks, manuals, and so much more
- Monthly virtual webinars and roundtable events
- The quarterly **ANJEC Report**, plus the biweekly ANJEC News, a biweekly environmental news digest
- The annual **Fundamentals for Environmental Commissions Training** offered each spring
- The annual **Environmental Congress**, our educational conference *September 27, 2024*
Advocacy on NJ’s Most Critical Statewide Environmental Issues

Map of Plastic Ordinances Passed that led to PPRA
Open Space Stewardship Grants
Deadline: April 26, 4:30pm

ANJEC provided grant funding to help the Tinton Falls EC establish an Osprey Nest project.

West Orange EC created a pollinator garden with an apiary through an ANJEC grant.

One-year grants of up to $1,500 will be available to environmental commissions in New Jersey whose applications are approved for funding in 2024.  
• advance local open space stewardship, and 
• help to raise the profile of the environmental commission in the community through publicity and public participation or collaboration with local groups on the project.

https://anjec.org/open-space-stewardship-grants/

Sponsored by: donation to the Candace McKee Ashmun Memorial Fund and

LSRPA Foundation

Veolia
2024 Lechner Scholarship
Deadline: April 30, 2024

- $1,200 for college students entering junior or senior year
- New Jersey resident
- Majoring in natural resources, parks and recreation, environmental law, environmental sciences or a related field
- Cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher
- Demonstrated activism in the preservation of New Jersey’s open space, wildlife or water resources

anjec.org/action-alerts/

Contact: Georgia Madiba, gmadiba@anjec.org
How is our work made possible?

It’s all thanks to supporters like you!

Our work is funded by:
- Memberships
- Individual donations
- Foundation support
- Corporate sponsors

Learn more about how you can become a municipal member here

ANJEC.ORG/MEMBERSHIPS
2024 Priorities:

• Support Compliance with MS4 Permit
  • Educational outreach & community engagement
  • Mapping
  • Watershed Implementation Planning

• Support Adoption of Stormwater Utilities

• End Plastic Pollution

• Advance Climate Resiliency Planning and Projects

• Expand Renewable Energy Development
Upcoming ANJEC Programs
Registration coming soon

Thurs, April 25, 7pm: Environmental Posters: Art’s impact to ignite conversation, Webinar

Saturday, May 11, 9am: In-Person Regional Networking

Tuesday, May 14, Noon: Clearing the Path, Tackling litter at the source, Webinar
Let’s keep in touch about everything we are doing!

@Anjecviews5871

@ANJECpage

@ANJECposts

ANJEC
2024 Member Interest Form

SCAN HERE, or go online to:
forms.gle/v8XZhVJdKCYVAhh88
2024 Fundamentals for Effective ECs
March/April 2024

March 12-14 Virtual sessions- Review on ANJEC’s YouTube channel: ANJEC Views:
-Environmental Commission Powers & Responsibilities
-Stormwater Regulations, Green Infrastructure
-ERI/Master Plan/Land Use (3/13/24 @7 pm)
-Marketing Your EC/Community Engagement

Today:
-Brief overview of Env. Commission Powers
-Case study: Readington Twp Digital ERI
-Hands-on Site Plan Review & Roundtable Discussions
How long have you served on your EC or EAC?

- Never/I’m not on an EC
- 0-1 years
- 1-3 years
- 3-6 years
- more than 6 years
What’s the Difference?

Environmental Commission OR Environmental Committee

Environmental Commission OR/AND Green Team

Environmental Advisory Committee

Environmental Commission
Advisory Commission on Green Initiatives - Green Team

Environmental Advisory Committee
Commission Powers

• Study and make recommendations on water, air, waste, noise, landscape protection, environmental appearance, flora and fauna

• Create an Open Space Index and Recommendations
Getting organized

Mission statement
Bylaws
Annual goals
Annual report
Budget

ANJEC
Local Environment Matters
How to become an influential EC

• Give electeds easy wins
  – Small grant project, movie night, etc.
• Attend council/committee meetings
• Be willing to listen and learn
• “Thanks & spanks”
• Don’t take it personally

Berkeley Heights Mayor Devanney and Councilman Yellin help cut the ribbon on their new community garden, led by the EC Chair Rich Leister
Relationships build success

Town Council, administration, departments, boards, commissions

Schools, businesses, clubs, organizations, watershed organizations/ambassadors

General public

Adopt a Drain, BH!

Help Keep Our Town Clean!
Creating trust

- Seek alliances
- Find common ground, shared needs
- Be open to new ideas
- Pool resources
- Share credit liberally
- Demonstrate value
Dealing with a Challenging Administration

Don’t take it personally

Offer Solutions For example, if funding is an issue – offer other funding options such as grants when proposing projects

Build base of support – involve the community in commission activities; use publicity

Work on projects that are of interest to the governing body (e.g., park cleanups, tree planting)
ANJEC Views YouTube channel

2024 Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissions

Stormwater Utility Information Session
64 views • 6 months ago

Roundtable: Community Engagement Strategies, Supporting...
16 views • 6 months ago

NJ Clean Communities
Stormwater Management Outreach and Education
JoAnn Gemenden
Executive Director
NJ Clean Communities Council

High Functioning ECs: How to Impact Your Municipality
1:16:31

Effective Environmental Commissions 2022
45:14
Homework Assignments:

- Find your EC’s establishing ordinance
- Look for your Open Space Plan and/or Open Space Index
- Find your Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI/NRI)
- Find your town’s stormwater management page
- Find out who your town’s stormwater manager is
Keep in Touch

Resource Center Help - info@anjec.org

@ANJECViews
@ANJECpage
@ANJECposts

To visit anjec.org