



2/6/25 7PM

Welcome

**Environmental Commission
Volunteer Recruitment & Retention**

Hosted by: Nandini Checko & Sheila Baker Gujral, ANJEC

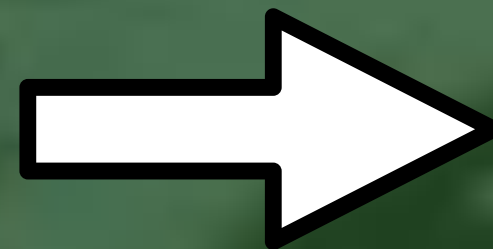
**ANJEC
HOME PAGE**



Before We Begin

- This session will be recorded & available afterwards to all registrants, and on our **YouTube** channel.
- Please send us your questions in the **Q&A**.
- If we do not get to your question today, email us at **info@anjec.org**.

Subscribe on Youtube



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 ANJEC's Board of Trustees



Resource Center – Model ordinances, handbooks, manuals, games/tabling equipment and more

Events - Monthly virtual webinars and roundtables, Annual Fundamentals for Environmental Commissions Training (Spring), and Annual Environmental Congress (Autumn)

Literature - The Quarterly ANJEC Report, Bi-weekly ANJEC News, & Monthly digest, all available online

Full Library
Here:



Upcoming Events



February 27

Hour of Action - Plastics Legislation

March 18 - March 20

“Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissions”
virtual series and in person session.

Find info about these and more at

<https://anjec.org/conferences-workshops/> →



Renew your ANJEC membership for 2025



ANJEC Membership Information & Forms
anjec.org/memberships

As a nonprofit organization, ANJEC relies on the generosity and support of donors like you to continue our vital work in protecting New Jersey's natural resources and promoting sustainable practices.

Go to www.anjec.org/donate for more details



Special Guest Speakers:



Terrence Curran, Cranford Mayor



Ronald Margulis, Cranford EC Chair



CRANFORD
NEW JERSEY



"In our democracy, the only title higher and more powerful than that of president is the title of citizen. It is every citizen's right and duty to help shape the future legacy of our nation."

- President Carter
December 2016



Volunteer Strategy: What's in your toolkit?



Volunteer Recruitment Guidance:

1. EC Volunteer job description and skill sets
2. EC Volunteer Sign-Up Form
3. Brochure "Benefits of ECs"
4. Youth Member Recruitment Template
5. Environmental Concerns Survey for community members

EC Job Description

Time Commitment

- Minimum one monthly meeting
- Additional 3-5 hours depending on projects and programs

Skill Sets

- Strong communication skills
- Problem solving expertise
- Desire to support and promote local environment
- Knowledge of environmental regulations

Responsibilities

- Promote enviro awareness and protection
- Create/maintain Open Space index
- Develop/share Annual Report
- Organize /host community events such as clean ups. green fairs
- Review Site Plan Applications



**Please share in
the CHAT your
ideas on EC Job
Description**



Community Volunteer Fair

Sunday, March 26: 1-4pm at The Woodland
80 Woodland Road in Maplewood

Come and find ways to match your interests and skills with some of the organizations doing great things in our community. From local food banks to nature and the environment, social justice to arts and education. We invite all community organizations and residents to join us.

For more information please contact SOMA Two Towns For All Ages at: soma2towns@gmail.com or call (908) 656-0878

GET INVOLVED.
MEET GREAT PEOPLE.
MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



For appointment to Boards, Committees, & Commissions

Email to: clerksoffice@princetonnj.gov -or- Mail or deliver to: Office of the Municipal Clerk
Municipality of Princeton
400 Witherspoon Street
Princeton, NJ 08540

APPLICANT INFORMATION

NAME: _____
PHONE NUMBER: (____) _____ EMAIL: _____
ADDRESS: _____
STREET CITY STATE ZIP

BCC OF INTEREST

Select up to three.

<input type="checkbox"/> Advisory Committee on Affordable Housing, Human Services, & Racial, Social & Economic Equity	<input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Animal Control Advisory Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing Authority Board
<input type="checkbox"/> Board of Health	<input type="checkbox"/> Library Board of Trustees
<input type="checkbox"/> Board of Parks & Recreation Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction Board of Appeals	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning Board
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Art Ad Hoc Committee
<input type="checkbox"/> Flood & Stormwater Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Transit Committee
	<input type="checkbox"/> Shade Tree Commission
	<input type="checkbox"/> Zoning Board of Adjustment

Order of preference: 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



Princeton volunteer form

Scan the QR codes to access these examples

Maplewood's community volunteer fair

Do you want to join your Environmental Commission?

Hundreds of Environmental Commissions (ECs) across New Jersey are taking local action to protect and restore the state's natural resources and to ensure healthy communities for today and the future.



Hackensack community garden ribbon cutting



Parsippany EC celebrates passing a plastic bag ban ordinance

Comprised of dedicated, passionate and knowledgeable volunteers appointed by the mayor, ECs engage in environmental initiatives and projects that benefit their municipalities with immeasurable impact.

Environmental Commissioners work to:

- Address localized flooding
- Enhance, preserve and protect open space
- Reduce litter and improve recycling programs
- Provide environmental education & stewardship



Recruitment Methods

Partnerships & Events

Scouts

Houses of worship

Senior centers

Schools and parent organizations

Clean community coordinators

Town and county recycling coordinators

Watershed organizations

Chamber and business organizations (Rotary, Lions, Elks)

Partner with like-minded organizations and other towns

Well chosen community events

Fairs and festivals

Recruitment Methods

Engagement Ideas

Make new friends

Tell your story, person-to-person

Capture social media and media attention

Multiply publicity through partnerships

Tip: Publish in multiple languages

**TRAIGA SUS
BOLSAS
REUTILIZABLES
CUANDO VAYA DE COMPRAS
NJClean.org**



***Comenzando en mayo,
la ley de NJ prohibirá
a todas las tiendas de
proporcionar bolsas
plásticas y también
bolsas de papel en los
supermercados.***

***Comience a traer
bolsas reutilizables.***



**Please share in the CHAT
your ideas on
Recruitment/Partnerships**



Use your annual report as a brag and recruitment tool!

SOMERVILLE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

75+

Total
volunteers

\$166,500

Total grant
dollars received

202

Total trees
planted

1,228

Hours of
volunteer work

\$43,594

Dollars saved in
volunteer work

4

Plans/ordinances
submitted

LOCAL PARTNERS

Somerville

- Borough Council & Administration
- Planning Board
- Department of Public Works
- Recreation Department
- Downtown Somerville Alliance
- Fire Engine #1
- Somerville High School & Environmental Club
- Girl and Boy Scouts
- Vanderveer Elementary School
- Turf, Surf and Earth
- Revive Consign
- Ambee Coffee

Beyond Somerville

- ANJEC (Association of NJ Environmental Commissions)
- Licensed Tree Experts
- Wallace House & Old Dutch Parsonage State Historic Site
- AmeriCorps & Watershed Ambassadors
- Somerset County/Somerset County Tourism
- Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program
- PSE&G & Sustainable Jersey
- NJ Electric Vehicle Association
- RideWise NJ
- Native Plant Society of Somerset NJ
- Somerset County Regional Farmers Market

Conclusion



We strengthen our community by **collaborating to identify local challenges** our Borough cannot afford due to lack of time, workforce or money



The EC provides opportunities for **community service**, helping residents to **feel responsible for the stewardship of their community**, creating lasting, positive impact on society at large



The EC's community outreach provides **ongoing educational opportunities for residents**, helping to enrich Somerville and positively impacting our local environment



Relationships build success!



Town Council, administration,
departments, boards,
commissions

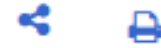
General public

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



EC Youth Member Recruitment

Home » Departments » Environmental Committee



Plumsted Youth for Nature and the Environment (PYNE)

PYNE's mission is to inspire children, youth, and young adults to become sustainability leaders in our community.

We will carry out this mission with our members by:

- providing opportunities to define and implement a variety of environmental projects
- promoting awareness of environmental issues
- encouraging exploration, respect and protection of nature
- building confidence, self-esteem, leadership and life skills



With the support of an extensive mentorship program and peer-to-peer teamwork, our members will be empowered to make decisions and changes that can help create a more sustainable future.

PYNE PLEDGE

"I pledge to do my part to protect the Earth. I will make an effort to educate myself and others about protecting nature and the environment, today, tomorrow, and in the future."

For further information, please contact the PYNE president at pyne.president@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page at PYNEPage.

“We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children.”
– Native American Proverb

Your Voice, Our Future: Environmental Concerns Survey



Help shape the future of our town by sharing your thoughts on local environmental issues.

This survey seeks to understand your concerns and priorities regarding stormwater, pollution, green spaces, waste management, and more. Your input is critical in creating a healthier, greener community for all. This survey is organized by the Environmental Commission (EC), a volunteer group that advises the town council on local environmental challenges and opportunities.

Survey takes 5 minutes!

Learn more about your local EC and JOIN our efforts! See more information below.

Thanks to [ANJEC](#) (Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions) for creating this sample survey for environmental groups to adapt and use.



This form is automatically collecting emails from all respondents. [Change settings](#)

Volunteer Strategy: What's in your toolkit?



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Volunteer Retention

- Provide meaningful and engaging experiences
- Align tasks with volunteers' interests and passions
- Regularly recognize and appreciate contributions
- Encourage leadership roles for personal growth
- Maintain open and transparent communication
- Keep volunteers informed about goals and changes
- Foster a positive and supportive community
- **CELEBRATE** the small and large victories!