



Chatham Township Environmental Commission
Meeting Agenda
Tuesday December 6, 2022
7:15 PM via Zoom

Please click the following to join the webinar:

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OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT: The meeting schedule for 2022 and January 2023 is posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building, in two newspapers and on the Chatham Township Environmental Commission website at <https://www.chathamtownship-nj.gov/environmental>. The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings, join the discussions and participate in projects.

CTEC'S PURPOSE: To undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources and air quality, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

The Chatham Township Environmental Commission's goal is to provide a responsible environmental viewpoint to Township committees and boards and to undertake projects with a strong educational component in order to inform officials and residents about constructive actions that can be taken to preserve the environment.

APPROVED DATES FOR CTEC AND GREEN TEAM FOR 2022 AND JANUARY 2023

The first Tuesdays except second Tuesday in January 2022 and the third Tuesday in May:

January 11, February 1, March 1, April 5, May 17, June 7, July NO MEETING, August MEETING CANCELLED, September 6, October 12, November 1, December 6, 2022 and January 10, 2023.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Roll Call of CTEC Members: Celeste Fondaco (Township Committee liaison), Cara Pacifico Feeser, Amy Mason, Jim Connelly, Matt Palmer, Jessica Romeo, Lisa McHugh, Dan Miller (Planning Board), Sally O'Neil (alternate 1); Public Meeting Statement (see above)
2. Approve CTEC and Green Team Minutes of November 1, 2022
3. Green Team updates – Activities that CTEC manages are all part of the Green Team: clean ups, gardens, plant sales and tree seedling giveaways, educational webinars/meetings, etc.
4. EV Charging Station Update – Vendor the Township is using: Sema. The EV chargers have arrived and will be installed. Ribbon cutting ceremony TBD.
5. Energy Aggregation and Energy Audits – for 2023 we will investigate offering energy audits to residents and revisit energy aggregation. Amy Mason to update on status of energy aggregation. Jessica Romeo re Energy Audits.
6. Website updates/communication with residents. For now, our point of contact for any updates to the website remains to be Z. Starting next year, Megan will ask for updates from us on a regular basis. (Lisa).

7. Bear Aware program for residents / Date TBD in February 2023, in partnership with the Borough EC and Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center. (Jessica)
8. Updates to come on pocket park at Shunpike over flow parking that would include native plants gardens – Celeste has had successful meetings and plans are underway, Celeste to update on status of DPW preliminary work.
9. NJSMA (Jessica) –No new updates.
10. RECAP OF 2022 PROGRAMS/EVENTS + 2023 EVENTS:
 - Need to create a list of 2022 events with photos. Does anyone want to do this?
 - 2023 events:
 - Bear Aware Education Program with the Great Swamp Outdoor Ed Center, TBC for February (JR)
 - EV Expo tentative date of Saturday 4/22/23 (JR)
 - Spring yard sale set for Saturday 4/29/23 and Fall yard sale for Saturday 9/30/23 (JR)
 - Tree seeding giveaway, TBC based on state program (CF, LM)
 - Plant sale with the Great Swamp Watershed Association, TBC in the spring (JR)
 - Spring cleanup: TBC – Rain Garden
 - Fall clean up: TBC – Shunpike Field clean up
 - Trail work day (?)
 - Rain Garden workshop TBC (JR)
11. Reports:
 - a. Township Committee – Celeste Fondaco
 - b. Planning Board – Dan Miller
 - c. Open Space – Jim Connelly
 - d. Education and Outreach – Jessica Romeo
 - e. Invasive Species – Matt Palmer
 - f. Social Media – Jessica Romeo, Cara Pacifico Feeser
 - g. Website – Lisa McHugh (see above agenda item)
 - h. Pollinator / Native Gardens – Jessica Romeo (see above agenda item/explore new locations for 2023)

APPLICATION/ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT REVIEW

- 411 Southern Blvd (Arbor Green) was noted on the agenda for December 5, 2022 Planning Board Meeting, Dan Miller to provide an update to CTEC.
- Application for 480-490 River Road proposed minor subdivision. The application was scheduled to be heard on October 17, 2022 at 7:30pm. Dot Stillinger attended the meeting to make some remarks. We did not send a letter from CTEC.
- When the two affordable housing lots on River Road begin to be developed CTEC will send another memo to the boards involved urging conservation easements on the upper slopes and on a wildlife corridor extending down to the road.
- Suggest that there is an opportunity now to establish a conservation zone along all the slopes on River Road.
- Frank Banisch, Township Planner, endorses the idea of a preserved Greenway along the slopes.
- Discussion. The role of the EC. The NJDEP and the Township Engineer have assumed many of the environmental oversight activities that used to be mainly the responsibility of the EC and non-profit environmental groups.

ONLINE RESOURCES

- Good NJDEP website for maps, parcels and environmental information at NJ-GeoWeb,
<http://www.state.nj.us/dep/gis/geoweb splash.htm>
- . Use Internet Explorer.

- Very good Morris County mapping utility at <https://morrisgisapps.co.morris.nj.us/apps/parcelsearcher/> , hit Map and use the i tool. Gives information about each parcel and has aerials layer. Search for more detailed information about a parcel at <https://mcweb1.co.morris.nj.us/MCTaxBoard/>.

- View open space and Green Acres properties at <https://www.state.nj.us/dep/greenacres/ga50/docs/roslite.pdf> and <https://www.state.nj.us/dep/greenacres/openspace.html>.