



**Chatham Township Environmental Commission**  
**Meeting Agenda**  
**Wednesday February 7, 2024, 7:15pm**  
**58 Meyersville Rd. Chatham NJ 07928 in the Senior Center, lower level**

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT:** The meeting schedule for 2024 and January 2025 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.

**DATES FOR CTEC AND GREEN TEAM FOR 2024 AND JANUARY 2025 –**

The first Wednesday except the second Wednesday in January April and July 2024:

January 10, February 7, March 6, April 10, May 1, June 5, July 10, August NO MEETING, September 4, October 2, November 13, December 4, 2024 and January 8, 2025.

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. Roll Call of CTEC Members: Marty McHugh (Township Committee liaison), Jessica Romeo, Cara Pacifico Feeser, Amy Mason, Jim Connelly, Celeste Fondaco, Lisa McHugh, Dan Miller (Planning Board), Pat Wells (alternate 1); John von Knorring (alternate 2)
2. Public Meeting Statement (see above)
3. Approve Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2024
4. Approve 2024 meeting schedule
5. 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. Silver Certification received October 2021. We are up for recertification in 2024. 2024 application dates to focus on: May 10 and July 31, 2024. 2024 Sustainable Jersey team members / subcommittee: Jessica Romeo; Lisa McHugh; Amy Mason and alternate commissioners: Pat Wells; John von Knorring.
  - Some of the subcommittee met on Saturday 2/3/23 at the Library of the Chathams to review CTEC/Green Team accomplishments and begin to map out 2024 Sustainable Jersey application.
  - Of interest, we identified areas that the Township does a lot but does not yet capture SJ point (eg: Art in the community).
  - The administrator and Mayor are adding a number of items to the February Township Committee Meetings to ensure we have resolutions, etc in order to begin the application process.
  - The Township has been helping with the Friends of the Library Book Sale; we are getting ready to launch Adopt-

a-drain; CTEC has worked with DPW to provide some wonderful educational materials to the K-3 schools in the SDOC around recycling and waste. Discussion topic: refresh our existing anti-idling campaign.

-Please review the meeting document titled "CTEC Sustainable Jersey 2024 Tracker". Meeting discussion will include updates; additions; etc.

6. **Shunpike Restoration Project** – Pat to secure a meeting w/ the Morris County Extension Service – update?
7. **2024 events (running list, not complete): Assign 2024 events/programs to commissioners**
  - Determine at least two educational seminars (Cara and Celeste)
  - EV Expo with Madison and Chatham Borough - DATE TBC (Jessica and John)
  - Spring yard sale with Madison, Chatham Borough, Great Swamp Watershed Association - 5/4/24 (Jessica)
  - Tree seeding giveaway - Date TBC (Cara and Jim)
  - Plant sale with the Great Swamp Watershed Association, distribution - date TBC (Jessica, Celeste, Pat)
    - \*Creating a Woodland Garden with Indigenous Plants & Vertical Structure - 1/18/24
    - \*Plug in To Native Groundcovers (2/15/24)
    - \*Pollinator Conservation: Creating and Protecting Habitat for NJ's Bees, Butterflies, and Biodiversity (3/13/24)
    - \*Plants for Pollinators: Plant Sale Overview and Kick off with Hazel England GSWA (4/1/24)
  - Native Plant Month w/ the Library of the Chatham – May 2024 (Jessica and Pat)
  - Fishawack - 6/8/24 (Cara, Jim, Celeste)
  - Fall Sustainability fair - 9/21/24, 8am-1pm (Pat and John)
  - Township Fall Festival – Date TBC (Lisa and Jim)
  - Fall cleanup event – TBC (Lisa and Jim)
  - Trail work day – TBC (Jessica and Lisa)
  - Shunpike Restoration - TBC for 2024 (Pat, Jessica, Lisa)
  - Fall yard sale with Madison, Chatham Borough, Great Swamp Watershed Association - 10/18/24 (Jessica)
8. Reports:
  - a. Township Committee – Marty McHugh
  - b. Planning Board – Dan Miller
  - c. Open Space – Jim Connelly
  - d. Education and Outreach – Jessica Romeo and Cara Feeser (new ideas: electrify your home and rebates, interactive program w/ GSWA, make your own composter and hands on compost tutorial, Mosquito management, food challenge – reduce meat consumption)
  - e. Invasive Species –
  - f. Social Media – Jessica Romeo
  - g. Website – Jessica and Jim
  - h. Pollinator / Native Gardens – Jessica Romeo and Pat Wells (see above agenda item/explore new locations for 2023)
  - i. Grants – Jim Connelly
9. The Township [NRI](#) is due for an update. The last update was 2013 and they are meant to be updated every 10 years. Preference is to keep the name NRI vs ERI. CTEC to make suggested updates to each section and share w/ Township engineer for advice and input.
10. Possible new project: updating the conservation easement inventory. Thigs have changed since [the conservation easement inventory](#) was created in 1999.
11. Clean Communities update and adopt a drain program [info found here](#). Plans to start this program in Q1 2024.
12. CTEC informational articles subcommittee: Lisa, Jessica, Pat. Discuss second article for submission.

APPLICATION/ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT REVIEW – Lisa has been doing a great job, attending site visits and preparing comments for Board of Adjustment and Planning Board applications.

**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>.